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IANTHÉ,

OR THE

FLOWER OF CAERNARVON,

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IANTHÉ,

OR THE

FLOWER OF CAERNARVON,

A NOVEL,

IN TWO VOLUMES.

Dedicated, by Permission, to

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

BY

EMILY CLARK,

FREDERICK, SON OF THEODORE,
KING OF CORSICA.

VOL. II.

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IANTHE,

OR THE

FLOWER OF CAERNARVON.

Une personne, qui a une ame droite, et honnête, et qui vit avec des gens injustes, indelicats ou corrompus, est malheureuse.

SOON after my arrival in London, my little boy, whose constitution had been very delicate from his birth, in consequence, I imagine, of the troubles I had suffered, fell dangerously ill. I was advised to take him, when he recovered, to a watering-place, where he would have the advantage

vantage of bathing in the sea, as it would be of great service to his health. Eager to adopt any plan that might be beneficial to my darling child, I immediately went to Ramsgate, accompanied by a friend whom I fortunately met with in town, and who had been educated in the same convent with me and my sister.

We travelled in the stage, and five miles from town were joined by a gentleman, who appeared to be three and twenty years of age. Though the little adventure I am going to recite does not relate materially to my story, yet I cannot avoid mentioning it, as a very particular example of the power of pride on the finest understandings. Isabel de Valicour, my friend, possessed, in general,

general, an unbounded flow of spirits, which, notwithstanding the severe misfortunes she had encountered as well as myself, rarely repressed her animation. We had been conversing with much gaiety before the gentleman entered the carriage, and the folemnity of his appearance, with his riding feveral miles without uttering a fyllable, struck so forcibly Isabel's lively imagination, that she could not avoid fmiling feveral times. It appeared to discompose his gravity, for he then ventured to fay, that it was very pleasant to have merry thoughts. Apprehensive that her behaviour, which certainly had the appearance of rudeness, though it proceeded from the vivacity and innocence of her heart, might offend him, which would have grieved

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me, though he was a perfect stranger, I endeavoured to enter into conversation with him, and we both found him, to our mutual satisfaction, a very sensible, entertaining character, apparently possessed of an excellent heart, which made our journey end more pleasantly than it had begun.

A day or two afterwards, as Isabel and myself were strolling through the public walk, we were accosted by our stage-coach acquaintance; as he appeared to be a man of fashion, and we were in want of a beau to escort us about, we admitted of his attendance without any scruple, reflecting that in a watering-place every person must be known, and that the steadiness of his appearance made

made it impossible for us to entertain any fuspicions with regard to the propriety of his character. I gave him an invitation to take coffee with us the following day, which he feemed to accept with great pleafure. When he came, I imparted to him in the course of conversation, the leading parts of Isabel's story and my own, and that we dreaded foon to be obliged to depend on the world for support, were we to receive any disagreeable intelligence from France. He expressed a great deal of feeling and interest for us, and expatiated with the utmost sensibility on the value of high birth, as he was himfelf, he faid, nobly descended, and that every other advantage was inferior to being well born. In fhort, he conducted himself so well, that we

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rejoiced at fuch an agreeable addition to our fociety.

The next day Isabel and myself went alone to the public walk, and to our severe mortification, our new acquaintance, Mr. Fitzalton, passed us feveral times in the course of the evening, in company with fome ladies, without deigning to notice us, even by a bow, which common politeness ought to have induced him to do. I observed to Isabel, that the world would fay we deferved this indignity, for forming an acquaintance with a stranger; nor should I have acted thus, if I had not judged that a man of birth and education would have possessed some liberality of sentiment; but his motive, I conclude, is this, that as we are young, and, from

from our poverty, what the world styles Nobody; he fears that were be feen gallanting us, it might, perhaps, prevent his fucceeding with fomebody of fortune on whom he has views; I suppose he, at first, imagined we had independent fortunes, and was afterwards vexed to find himself disappointed. Or what is perhaps more probable, exclaimed Isabel (for you know the vanity of the fex), he might be afraid that I should fall in love with him, as he was our only beau, and that would shock his expressive sensibility; befides, there are plays and balls, &c. and should he visit us frequently, these might occasion more expence to him than he can afford, for if you recollect, he faid he was not B 4 wealthy,

wealthy, which I thought, dear Gabriella, a very good hint.

This little affair furnished us with conversation for some time. We continued our usual walks, without being at all disconcerted at Fitzalton's studied rudeness, after the first unpleasant surprise. Isabel, whose mind always rose indignant from infult, viewed him with indifference whenever she met him, from a conscious superiority. A fortnight had elapfed in this manner, and Ifabel was feated alone one morning in our apartment, reading a very interesting work, when she was startled at Fitzalton's fudden appearance. He attempted an apology for what had passed, by saying he had frequently endeavoured to catch her eye on the public

public walk, but could not. So flimfy an apology met with the reception it deserved, and was received with contempt. Our behaviour gave him no encouragement to repeat his visit, though his subsequent conduct implied a wish, from what motive I cannot define, that he had acted differently. As we foon after left the place, the enigma was never refolved, though pride, we conjectured, was his motive for fhurning us, and that afterwards his good fense made him repent the ridiculous and fuspicious part he had acted.

I returned to London in very good spirits, as my little boy was quite recovered; but soon did sorrow cloud this transient dream of peace.

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Ifabel

Isabel found letters which obliged her to embark for France, and we parted with mutual regret. I received, at the same time, a letter from my brother, in which he related that De Fremont had carried his rancour so far, as to procure his banishment from France, and that Madame de Villars was imprisoned, and her estates confiscated. He added that his circumstances were so distressed, as to render him incapable of fupplying me with money.

My mifery was now at its height. Overwhelmed with grief for the loss of a beloved husband, I had to dread the death of his child from want. Educated as I had been in the greatest refinement, and with the utmost tenderness, it was a humiliating miliating and painful task to encounter the frowns of an unfeeling world for a subsistence; but cruel necessity urged me.

I recollected an English lady who visited my aunt at Paris, and applied to her to procure me a situation. She received me with the coldness which is generally observed by most people to others in distress. She was a good principled woman, but devoid of that sensibility which is so consolatory to a mind smarting under adversity. I expected that sympathy in her manners which springs from the heart, but was disappointed; she expressed, however, a concern for my missortunes.

I find, she said, you wish to go B 6 out out as governess or companion; for the former fituation, I can recommend you to a lady of my acquaintance; but your being a French woman, and so young, will be a great objection. As you speak English exceedingly well, I think you had better not acknowledge it, and only fay you have lived a great many years in France; you should likewife change your name for another. In consequence of Mrs. Mitford's advice, I assumed the name of Ashley, and was introduced by her to Mrs. Hardinge, as a young widow of noble family, who had met with misfortunes. The latter appeared much pleased with me, and her manners were fo good-natured and affable, though her person was not perpossessing, that I cherished the hope hope of being once more happy, though in a dependent fituation, as the remembrance of my former prospects would permit me. Mrs. Hardinge took me the next day to her house at Twickenham; where the first circumstance that mortified me, was the apartment allotted for my use. It was so wretched a garret, that I could hardly stand upright in any part of it; it was likewise very close, and though the weather was extremely hot, one small casement only gave air to it. At dinner I faw the husband, who disgusted me with his vulgar, boisterous manners; but Mrs. Hardinge told me he was very good-natured; however I faw no appearance of it. The next morning I began the talk of instruction, at which Mrs. Hardinge presided.

presided. I found her very satirical; fhe made not a few remarks on my abilities, and let me know she had no great idea of them, which quite intimidated me. I continued with the children till nine o'clock, when they went to bed, and then Mrs. Hardinge and myfelf had fome conversation. She said Mrs. Mitford had given me fo high a character, that she was rather disappointed, as I did not equal her expectations; but the fancied I had received a flattering education. Seeing me depressed by these observations, she expressed much friendship for me, and thus healed the wound the had inflicted, for I imputed the severity of her remarks to her candour, and not to ill-nature. But I foon found myself cruelly deceived. Her character beblieve

racter was quite different from the first opinion I had formed of it, through the speciousness of her manners. She was continually miferable from the badness of her temper, which could not endure, that any individual in her power should feel that happiness she did not enjoy herfelf. If a gleam of cheerfulness, to which I had been fo long a stranger, appeared on my countenance, The was fure to find fome occasion to fay an infulting thing, as she knew the fear I had of disobliging Mrs. Mitford, who was my only refource, would make me fubmit entirely to her caprice. As her own origin was very mean, she took frequent opportunities of accusing me of pride, on account of my noble birth, which, she observed, puffed me up with with haughtiness, but that, if I derived any confequence from it, it would be the greatest misfortune to me in the world. Do not think, Mrs. Ashley. rudely addressing me, that you shall shew me any of your proud airs, I shall send you packing in less than a week, if I perceive them. Such gross language was unanswerable, and I judged it beneath me to recriminate. My only confolation was in fometimes taking a folitary walk, when, from any unaccountable whim, she would keep her daughters at home. My tears would then flow unrestrained; a luxury in which I could never elfe indulge, as the children were otherwife always with me, and refembled their mother in badness of disposition. Of this poor source of comfort.

comfort, I was, however, abridged. A gentleman of fortune, who lived in the neighbourhood, and had feen me by accident, took it into his head to fall in love with me. His principles were very libertine, which, added to my dependent state, made him form the project of feducing me, and adding my name to the lift of those unhappy females he had undone. He wrote me numberless letters, which I returned unopened, and watched every opportunity of meeting me, when I walked out alone. This affair reached Mrs. Hardinge's ears, and I was commanded never to go out by myfelf, except to church. The propriety of this measure I was convinced of, but I felt overwhelmed with melancholy, by being thus deprived of this trifling relief to my exhaufted fpirits, which was necessary to my health, after a whole day's confinement. My fituation became daily worse, for Mrs. Hardinge, as the grew more familiar with me, made no effort to restrain her illhumour. She would put herfelf into the most dreadful rage on the most trifling occasion, and I never faw her enter the room, without an univerfal tremor pervading my whole frame, from the fear that she would discover some new cause of displeafure, though I was unwearied in my endeavours to please her: I had been engaged one morning, longer than usual, in the task of instruction, when, recoilecting I had a letter to write to the nurse who had the care of my child at Hampstead, I fent

fent the Miss Hardinges into the garden with their maid, and ran up to my room in great haste, that I might finish it in time to dress for dinner. I had opened my writing desk, when I was alarmed by a shrill voice calling me, which I recollected to be Mrs. Hardinge's; I descended into the school-room, trembling with the dread of her anger, which I had reason to expect from the tone of her voice, and was accosted by her with the countenance of a fury, and in the most vehement terms, for having left the stools and chairs out of their place. I endeavoured to foften her rage, but she continued to revile me so groffly, that my fortitude deserted me; I burst into tears, and hastening to my wretched garret, threw threw myself on the bed, where a fainting fit gave me a momentary oblivion of my forrows. Oppressed with the misfortunes of my life, it required the greatest exertions of mind to prevent them from totally depressing me. When I came to myfelf, a shower of tears relieved my fwollen heart, and I tried to recover from my dejection. I felt quite alone, nay worse than in the greatest solitude, though furrounded with human beings. To no one could I fpeak, or disclose the genuine fentiments of my heart, fearful of the shafts of malignant censure that are ever ready to wound the unfortunate and dependent. Oh !. my Adelaide, I exclaimed, how opposite to the indulgent eye of your affection, which magnified the inclination

clination to virtue you had implanted in me, as the height of perfection! Excited by your praises, I felt, a defire to emulate your goodness. And you, beloved d'Auvergne, whose affectionate heart participated in every joy and forrow of your Gabriella, how wounded would your faithful bosom have been at the fight of my misery! little would your high and manly spirit have brooked, that I should be thus treated! but happiness is fled from me, and I remain a wretched, unprotected being. The fight of my woe-worn countenance, so far from exciting any compassion in Mrs. Hardinge, only increased her cruelty; as the perceived I had not courage to contend with her, her ill-treatment to me increased from that day, till, wearied

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wearied with my fufferings, I invented some plausible excuse to leave her. To Mrs. Mitford I durst not again apply, as I was convinced Mrs. Hardinge had spoken very ill of me to her; I did not suppose I should have as much credit given to my story as she would to bers, for her character was high in the estimation of many people, who were ignorant of her real disposition, and she could make herself very pleafing, as she possessed much information on many subjects. wished her children to be prodigies, and if in any way they disappointed these expectations, her rancour was diffused to all around.

I cannot describe the painful, yet pleasing emotions, with which I embraced

embraced my dear boy after an abfence of some months. I took him
from nurse, and hired this lodging,
intending to support myself by embroidering for shops, as some of the
owners had promised to employ me.
I had acquired such a distaste for the
situation of a governess, as determined me to relinquish every idea
of procuring it. I walked occasionally in the Green Park; the rest of
my time was employed constantly at
work.

I was surprised one Sunday at seeing in the pew I sat in, a very grotesque figure of a woman, whose eyes
were fixed continually upon my
face; her form was masculine, and
she wore an old fashioned large flowered gown, a black bonnet with an
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handkerchief tied round her chin; this delicate figure had a fan in her hand, which she held every now and then before her broad face: I never felt so great an inclination to laugh, and was glad when the fervice ended, as I mistrusted this propenfity, every time my eye glanced towards her. It occurred to me that I had feen this woman's face before, although I could not afcertain the time or occasion; but the mystery was developed the next day, by a letter I received from Mr. Lovemore. the gentleman who had perfecuted me at Mr. Hardinge's, in which, he acknowledged having difguifed himfelf to have the happiness of seeing me at church; and after many protestations of love, concluded with offering me a handsome settlement. This

This new infult affected me greatly; I threw the letter into the fire, and applied diligently to my work, to divert unpleasant thoughts. I was afraid to go out as usual, from the dread of meeting Mr. Lovemore; I foon found he had bribed the miftress of the house to be in his interest, who now lost the respect she had before treated me with, and often intruded into my apartment to converse about him, and reproach me for being fo obstinate against my own advantage. My constitution, enervated by fuch repeated trials, funk under the pressure, and I fell dangerously ill. The little property I had was foon expended in paying for the attendance of the medical tribe. On my recovery, I was destitute of money, and in debt Vol. II. for

for fome months rent to my landlady, from whose rigour I had every thing to dread. She began again to importune me respecting Mr. Lovemore, who, fhe faid, had been constant in his inquiries after my health. Finding me inflexible, she threatened to turn me out of the house if I did not pay her, which it was utterly impossible for me to do, as I had no refources, and was unable to procure work a fecond time, tho' I had attempted to do it. My faithful Nannette was returned to France, as waiting maid to a lady, which I had infifted fhe should do, when I went to Mrs Hardinge's; and I was now without a fingle person, to whom, by speaking of my distresfes, I could have relieved the anguish of my mind. The only being that

that could afford me a shadow of relief, was my brother, as he had promifed to write me about that time. I endeavoured to foothe my landlady, by affuring her that I expected remittances from abroad very foon, but nothing that I could alledge would calm her, and she was at the height of her anger, when you, my dear Miss Claremont, came like my guardian angel, to fave me from destruction. Since I have paid my landlady, she has behaved with her former respect, which has induced me to remain here, the lodgings being cheap. Mr. Lovemore, finding me continue so obdurate, has, I imagine, given up the purfuit, as I have not heard from him lately. The return of my dear Ferdinand has been the greatest happiness

piness I have experienced fince the deep wound that was given to my peace. He intends to retire with me into Wales, with the small wreck of his fortune, which will enble us to live in a genteel manner, though with a striking contrast to our former expectations; but the frowns of the world have made us philosophers, except only when the remembrance of those we loved, will raise the figh of fond regret. If the tale of my misfortune has reconciled you to your own fate, I shall feel happy, though I fear the narrative of my afflictions has been tedious; but no apology will be necessary to a mind, fraught with fenfibility like your's.

during this recital of woe, affured

Madam

Madam d'Auvergne, that she was highly obliged to her for the affecting relation of her life, and that nothing would teach her refignation fo much, as the remembrance of her fufferings, in comparison of which, her own were trifling. Ianthé felt much elated, that the Marquis de Montalde intended to refide in Wales, and expressed a wish that he could fix his residence near Ruthlin, that Madam d'Auvergne might frequently visit her; but if it should be otherwise, then she defired, she made her promise, to pass fome moths with her, when she left London. While they were converfing, Ferdinand came in, and by the charming elegance of his manners, and the good sense he ci played in conversation, banished for a time

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the gloom of care from Ianthé's brow. She thought him, with the exception of Lord Raymond, the handsomest man she had ever feen. His figure was tall and commanding, and an air of fashion gave a finish to the whole; he had, like his fifter, no appearance of a foreigner; his complexion was fair and florid, his eyes and hair light as her's, which made them refemble each other exceedingly. The affection he flewed for Madam d' Auvergne and his little nephew, gave lanthé the most favourable opinion of his heart; and she perceived the tears once start into his eyes, as he contemplated these early victims to misfortune. The affectionate behaviour of Montalde was a convincing demonstration, that the truly

truly brave have always the most feeling hearts. In early youth, he had evinced an inclination for the profession of arms, and though not yet two and twenty years of age, had been distinguished in many instances for his matchless courage. Affection for his fifter, to whom he thought every facrifice due for the misfortunes to which he confidered himself, in some degree, accessary, by perfuading her to elope with the unfortunate d'Auvergne, had induced him to refign his own inclinations to her happiness, as he hoped his fociety would prevent her from finking into despondency; which he feared might be the consequence, were she left constantly to her own reflections. Ianthé found the time pass so pleasantly with these agreea-

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ble companions, that she was grieved, when looking at her watch, she perceived it was four o'clock. She embraced the fair Gabriella, and kissing the sweet boy, was conducted to the carriage by Montalde, who saw her depart with regret.

Clair, which nothing but but

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bert mentioned to lies have new

Misfortune stands with her bow ever bent

Over the world; and he who wounds another,

Directs the Goddess by that part he wounds,

Where to strike deep, her arrows on himself.

Young

HAPPINESS had long been estranged from lanthe's bosom; but the sight of her brother restored a portion of it; he embraced her with equal sensations of pleasure, for he was tenderly attached to her. She related to him all that had passed since their separation, and he selt the highest indignation against St.

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Clair,

Clair, which nothing but his fubsequent penitence could appeafe. Albert mentioned to her his intention of going into the army; this she endeavoured to diffuade him from, but in vain; as he was determined to purfue the path of glory which his father had followed. She could not but approve his determination, though her affection for him made her dread his encountering a life of fo much danger. The Miss Sydenhams were much pleafed with Albert. Ellen determined to make an attempt on his heart, as Lord Raymond's abfenting himfelf, made her despair of gaining his. She thought the former little inferior in personal attractions to the latter, though confiderably in fortune, and therefore renewed her kindness to his his fifter, as from his fondness for her, she confidered it as the furest road to his affections. Ianthé, unfuspecting the motive, was happy in this alteration, without concerning herfelf about the cause. Mr. Peter Oxburn* engroffed all Gertrude's attention; he had paid his addresses to Ianthé on her first coming to town, and piqued at her refufal of him, with the idea of mortifying her, offered himself to her cousin, where he was affured of a good reception, from the large fortune he was reported to have, and of which he was continually boafting. His person was so disgusting, that it was impossible for any woman of deliom eviction quality by cacy

the imall post, and a large.

^{*} A character from real life, refiding in Devon-

cacy to like him, even if his mind had been amiable; for, though in fome degree he concealed its vices under that refined artifice which he exercised on all occasions, the natural deformity of his foul would still appear, and the fallow hue of his unhealthy complexion, correfponded with the workings of his guilty mind. His heavy grey eyes fcouled from beneath his dark lowring brows, and courted the ground, not daring to look an honest man in the face. They were never animated, but when basely triumphing over some innocent victim of his malicious disposition. The hideoufness of his countenance was much increased by deep furrows made by the fmall pox, and a large fcar on his forehead. He was short and

fat;

fat; his shoulders prodigiously broad and round; and his legs like those of a porter. Such a combination of deformities, gained him the appellation of the Yellow Dwarf, by which he was generally distinguished; and it was very applicable to his complexion and figure. His foul was truly Italian, and could he have affassinated the objects of his dislike with any fecurity to himfelf, he would not have fcrupled to have done it: but though that method of vengeance was not in his power, he had occasioned many a broken heart by stabbing them in their fame and fortune; as his time was chiefly spent in meditating or executing his vindictive schemes. They were not however always fuccessful, and often covered him with difgrace; as oppressed pressed innocence will sometimes meet with protection from noble and virtuous minds. Fortune had been particularly kind to him, in raising him from a low and indigent fituation, to a very respectable one; but he depreciated the value of her gifts by his manners and depravity. He was fo deficient in common fenfe, as to be continually talking oftentatiously of his ancestors, when he was publickly known to be descended from the lowest dregs of the French nation. To fum up his character; " His neighbours fcorned him as a brute; his dependants dreaded him as an oppressor; and he had only the gloomy comfort of reflecting, that if he was hated, he was also feared by those who were dependant on him." v mid boravoo.

Willoughby

Willoughby was introduced to Albert by lanthé, as her preferver; for much as the difliked him, the grateful fentiments of her heart would not fuffer her to neglect a person to whom she was so highly indebted. When Albert requested to be ranked in the number of his friends. his confusion was extreme: as he reflected how unworthy he was of that title, from his late treacherous conduct, which had done away all claims to her gratitude: but he had now gone too far, he thought, to recede, and confoled himfelf with the idea of escaping detection; for his vanity flattered him, that he would gain her affection, which would repay him for all the stings of conscience. While Ianthé lamented, in fecret, the estrangement of Lord RayRaymond, he had retired to a beautiful villa on the banks of the Thames, near Richmond, where he lived in a melancholy seclusion from the gay world. He had requested a friend to inform him of every thing relating to Miss Claremont, and was, by him, acquainted that Lord Lindor had quitted London, which he attributed to the arrival of her brother, whose presence would prove an impediment to their secret interviews.

One morning he was walking by the fide of the river, his thoughts engaged on their usual object, when the sound of mirth, to which he had been long accustomed, interrupted his meditations; and he perceived a party of ladies and gentle-

men approaching, among whom he distinguished Ianthé. Their mutual emotion at the fight of each other was undescribable. Lord Raymond only touched his hat and paffed hastily on. The company, which confifted of Lady Sydenham and her daughters, Willoughby, Mr. Peter Oxburn, and Albert, were too eagerly converfing about Lord Raymond's distant behaviour, to observe Ianthe's confusion, which was noticed only by her brother, who felt highly irritated at his contemptuous neglect of good manners, thought it inexcusable. The fineness of the weather for the time of the year, had induced Lady Sydenham to pass a day at an elegant house she had at Kew, whence they had walked to Richmond, where the

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unexpected fight of Lord Raymond had renewed all Ianthe's forrows. She experienced a melancholy the remainder of the day, which the could not conquer, though the ridiculous figure Mr. Peter Oxburn made, and his pompous fallies to appear of consequence, had before diverted her exceedingly. He strutted about, as if he wished his new pea-green coat to be admired, and made himself more absurd than ever by repeating Milton's Il penseroso in a manner he thought inimitable, but which convulfed the whole party with laughter.

Ianthé passed a very restless night, her imagination continually recurring to the remembrance of Lord Raymond. Dejected and unhappy,

she felt pity where anger ought to have been the predominant fentiment, as she could attribute his conduct to no justifiable cause; but her compassionate heart led her to believe that he could find an excuse for what now wore the femblance of caprice. The family did not appear at the breakfast table till late, most of them being fatigued with the last day's excursion. Albert went out foon after, and lanthé experienced fome uneafiness, as she obferved he appeared melancholy and absent, and saluted her with unusual tenderness, when he left her. A packet from Nice had been expected every day, and she eagerly anticipated a letter from Sir James, or Lady Claremont. Every other anxiety was but a fecond confideration, com, pared pared to her wish of knowing the state of their health; an object that was continually present to her thoughts. Her perturbed fancy represented her father dying, and her mother overcome with grief, ready to follow him: these mournful tidings, she concluded, her brother had concealed, in hope that a favourable change might take place, before another letter arrived. She found suspense worse than the most dreadful confirmation of her tuspicions, and fent every ten minutes to inquire if Albert were returned, refolved to request an explanation of him. She remained till four o'clock in all the tortures of uncertainty, for which she could not, however, avoid blaming herfelf, as his melancholy might originate in some chagrin

grin that was immaterial to her. Endeavouring to conquer her feelings, she touched the bell for her fervant, whom she had hired to supply Alice's place, as the latter had accompanied Lady Claremont to Nice. When the had finished dreffing, she took up a book to amuse her till dinner, as she hoped her brother would be returned by that time; but though a very interesting work, it could not engage her attention. Dinner was announced, and fhe entered the room with the hope of feeing him there. Her disappointment was redoubled, and Lady Sydenham observed how pale she looked, and that she did not eat any Ashamed to have her weakthing. ness noticed, she exerted herself to recover some degree of cheerfulness, and

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and endeavoured to persuade herself that her fears were imaginary. In the evening, a large company was affembled in the drawing-room; every one was gay and animated, and she caught the general humour. Finding the heat rather oppressive from the crowd of company, she walked to the reception room, attended by Gertrude and fome other ladies, with a number of beaux in their fuite. A fudden bustle below stairs drew Ianthe's attention, though it was difregarded by the rest of the company; but she fancied she heard her brother's name repeated feveral times, and was hastening to inquire if he was returned, when a fudden exclamation of, " he is murdered, he is murdered," filled her with alarm upon his account; terrified at what

what she had heard, she darted forwards, and rushing into the hall, beheld Albert with the countenance of death, and his clothes stained with blood, fupported by feveral persons. She uttered a heart-piercing shriek, and fell senseless into the arms of Montalde, who had endeavoured to fave her from the horror of fuch an agonizing fight; but it was now too late, as her appearance was instantaneous. He had given orders that this melancholy event should be kept secret from her, till the furgeon had examined the wound and informed him of the extent of his friend's danger; but the fudden exclamation of one of the female fervants had rendered concealment impossible. When lanthé recovered, after remaining infentible fome hours, fhe

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she inquired after her brother with an agony of expression, that seemed to threaten a relapfe, if her fears for his life were not wholly quieted. She was affured, which was really true, that he was better, as the wound in his arm was far from being dangerous, his death-like appearance, which had fo much alarmed her, was occasioned by the loss of blood, and she was satisfied with the promise of being permitted to see him the next day. Calmed by this account, exhaufted nature at length found relief, and the funk into a fweet flumber, in which the remained fome hours, and when she awoke, had the fatisfaction of seeing her dear Gabriella sitting by the bedfide. lanthé confidered herself as in a pleasing dream, and could hardly believe her happiness

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ness to be real; so soothing was the society of a seeling mind to her distresses. As she was much resreshed by repose, she requested to be informed of the particulars that had occasioned Albert to endanger his life. Madame d'Auvergne wished Ianthé to deser the recital till the next day, as she thought it very reprehensible to risque the hurting her seelings in her present weak state; but the latter was so importunate, that she could not resuse her this gratification.

Joseph, your brother's fervant, faid Gabriella, came into his apartment this morning, and after apologizing for disturbing him so early, gave him a letter to read, which, he said, Miss Claremont's servant had found and entrusted to him. It was Vol. II. D from

from Willoughby to Ellen Sydenham, relating the plot he had laid for you at the masquerade, and of his having procured Mr. Lambton to personate Lord Lindors, with several other circumstances that were not repeated to me, but appeared fufficient to prove the villainy of the writer. Joseph being your maid's sweetheart, the shewed the letter to him, and he infifted upon his mafter's feeing it, to the great terror of Sally, who faid you would be angry with her for reading it, and perhaps discharge her, for which she could never forgive herfelf, as you were fo fweet a young lady. However he quieted her, by faying he would request his master not to mention it to you. Your brother's refentment against Willoughby was beyond description; after er h

after defiring Joseph to be filent on the fubject, and to tell Sally not to let you have the least hint of the discovery, he called on Montalde (which he has frequently done fince you introduced him to us) and related the affair. He delared that, if Willoughby refused to acknowledge he had been the means of traducing you, he would challenge him, and accordingly requested my brother to be his fecond for that purpose. They went immediately to Willoughby, who denied the whole, and refused to give them Mr. Lambton's address. He accepted your brother's challenge, and they met at feven o'clock in the evening at a tavern. Willoughby was fo dangerously wounded, that his life was despaired of when the furgeons were with him, which was D 2 before before your brother was brought to Grosvenor Square. As soon as Mr. Claremont's wound was dreffed, Montalde came and gave me this concife account of the whole affair. When I heard what you had fuffered from this unexpected shock, I infisted upon visiting you; I was introduced to Lady Sydenham as your friend, and she received me with much affability; but your coufins eyed me with a great deal of curiofity. They are ignorant, I believe, at present, that their confederacy with Willoughby is discovered, and your brother will spare them as much as possible, as Lady Sydenham would never recover the grief which the knowledge of their shameful conduct would make her feel. Ianthé affured Gabriella that her anguish guish would have passed relief, and that she never could have felt happiness if Albert had been killed. She reprobated duelling in the warmest terms, and expressed how miserable fhe should be, if Willoughby did not recover, as she could not support the reflection of being in the flightest degree accessary to the death of a fellow creature. Though his treachery had cancelled every obligation, she yet remembered he had been her preserver. We shall hear of him to-morrow from Montalde, replied Gabriella, therefore do not be uneafy on that head. lanthé now received that consolation from her friend, which she had imparted to her in the hour of diffress, and felt more forcibly than ever, how much an interchange of kindness contributed to the happiness of mankind.

At three o'clock the next day, Miss Claremont was permitted to fee Albert, and the conflict of her emotions at that moment, tho' she tried to conceal them, was almost insupportable. How near, faid she mentally, was I lofing this beloved brother! and what a poor miserable being I should have remained, deprived of all that I love! foon perhaps will he be every thing to me, father, mother, brother, friend. She knelt by the bed-fide, and taking his hand, bedewed it with her tears; which her utmost efforts could not withhold. He was unutterably affected by her diffress. When she was more composed, he intreated her to be careful of her health, and after conversing a short time together, she took leave, as she was fearful of agitating his spirits. Montalde made them a vifit foon after, and they learned that little hopes were entertained of Willoughby's recovery, a circumstance that gave lanthe the deepest concern. She was likewise apprehensive that his death might occasion fatal confequences to Albert. Montalde promised to be attentive in his inquiries concerning Willoughby's health, and lanthe's spirits were revived now that the had feen her brother, as the had till then apprehended he was in much greater danger. The following day afforded her a fresh source of comfort, by a letter from her mother, of the most affectionate tenor, in which she informed her, that the know-D 4

knowledge of her fafety had proved more beneficial to Sir James, than any thing else had done; that he proposed to return to England in two months, and anticipated the happiness of folding his beloved Ianthé to his parental bosom. She was impatient to inform Albert of this welcome intelligence, and foftly entering his apartment, fat by the fide of his bed till he awaked, and then imparted to him the pleasing contents of Lady Claremont's letter; he participated in her joy, and she had the additional pleafure of finding him better than he had been. Montalde came, as usual, to see Albert, but did not remain long, as he had fome particular business, which, he said, would detain him great part of the day, but in the evening he would wait ·won/

wait on Miss Claremont to inform her how Willoughby continued, as he had not yet sent to inquire.

Ianthé and her friend Gabriella passed several hours with Albert, who continued, as well as in the morning; their chief anxiety was now centered in Willoughby, whose recovery feemed very doubtful, and they were impatient for Montalde's return. He came about feven o'clock, and his countenance wore an air of fuch deep concern, that it inflantly alarmed the ladies, whose thoughts necessarily reverted to the object that occupied them. How is poor Willoughby! they both exclaimed? Montalde shook his head, and replied, that at present there were nohopes of his life, as the agitation of

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his mind, co-operating with the pain of his wounds, had brought on a fever, which it was feared would be fatal. Convinced of his danger, continued Montalde, he has intreated me to prevail on you to fee him, and receive his affurances of repentance; your forgiveness will smooth his last moments, which otherwise, he fays, will be fevere indeed. I felt much hurt at fuch a request, as I knew that a compliance with it would acutely wound your fenfibility; but a refusal, I think, is impossible; as you will agree with me, that in nis wretched state it would be a cruelty. If I have been prefumtuous, Miss Claremont, in supposing how you will act, excuse me, as I am guided by my knowledge of the fufceptibility of your heart, which, to foften

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foften the woes of others, will not spare its own feelings.

Ianthé bowed to this compliment, but her heart was too full for utterance, and tho' she did not hesitate in going to Willoughby, her feelings told her, the mournful tak would be a painful trial. She had no female friend to accompany her, except Gabriella, whom she could not think of subjecting to such a scene, as it must recal to her remembrance the murdered d'Auvergne. Lady Sydenham and her daughters were engaged with company, whom they could not with any degree of propriety leave. While she was deliberating, Montalde again urged the necessity of her departing directly, from the uncertainty of Willoughby's life. n A

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With a beating heart and trembling steps she arose, and saying she was ready, was conducted by him in silence to the carriage.

Her agitations augmented as they approached the house, which she entered, hardly able to support herfelf. Montalde left her, while he went to prepare Willoughby for the interview, and returned in a few minutes to accompany her to him. She was not familiarized to scenes of death, and feeling a tremor she could not suppress, remained fome time at the door of the apartment, before she had resolution to enter it. The curtains were drawn round the bed, which prevented the unfortunate man from feeing her immediately.

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An old lady, whose venerable afpect inspired respect and esteem, was feated by the fire, apparently overcome with forrow; and a young girl, whose face she could not perceive, was kneeling by the bedfide; and she heard her say in a low voice, My dear Charles, the lady is come, Heavenly goodness! he exclaimed, I shall now die happy. Let me see her. The young lady now rose from her kneeling posture, and advancing to Ianthé, made a motion for her to approach the bed, which she did in an agitation that almost overpowered her. His countenance was stamped, to all appearance, with the image of death: he raised his mournful eyes towards her face, now almost as pale as his own. His voice was, for fome moments, lost in the violence of his emotions; but recovering himfelf, he faid, in a hollow tone that thrilled her with horror. like a voice from the tomb: Oh. angel of benevolence! will you forgive him, who would have destroyed your happiness by blasting your fpotless fame? Wretched has been my conduct; but who could view your virtues and fascinating charms, without a wish to possess them! Yet, let not resentment harbour in that gentle bosom; may my errors be attoned for by my fufferings. You weep! Oh, precious drops, unworthy am I of them. Say, you forgive me; but can I dare expect it? With a tremulous voice, and in words scarcely articulate, Ianthé affured him of her fincere forgiveness; and incapable of supporting any

any longer, a scene, painful in the extreme to both, after suffering him to in print a kiss on her hand, took, as she imagined, a last farewell of him.

The old lady bowed to her when she left the room, and his fifter, in a graceful manner, thanked her for the compassion she had evinced for her unfortunate brother, though he did not merit her goodness; she added, that her mother was equally fensible of it, but too much affected to express her gratitude. Ianthé, after declaring herfelf much obliged by her politeness, joined Montalde who was waiting for her. My fears are realized, faid he, perceiving how feverely her feelings had been wounded. I have been miserable at your being

being obliged to witness such a fcene; my own fufferings were keen, as I was much interested for his mother and fifter, who are both excellent characters, and much attached to him, ashe has always been affectionate to them, though his vices have obscured every other good quality. I fincerely hope he will recover; but it is hardly possible to expect it. Ianthé agreed with him in his favourable opinion of Mrs. Willoughby and her daughter; she thought the latter pretty and interesting, and that she had no personal refemblance to her brother.

Montalde pitied Willoughby for his hopeless passion, as he now tasted its bitterness; for to see her continually without experiencing that love which which had been fatal to so many, was impossible. Her beauty alone would have been inadequate to captivate a mind so refined as his; but it was the sensibility of her heart and the sweetness of her disposition that shone conspicuous in every action. How soothing he thought her gentle voice, when exercising the duties of compassion. Unhappy Montalde! this unfortunate passion alone was wanting to complete your mifery. This made you truly feel the loss of fortune, by forbidding you to aspire to the object of your love.

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IANTHE.

But thro the heart
Should jealoufy its Venom once diffuse,
'Tis then delightful misery no more;
But agony unmixed l incessant gall,
Corroding every thought; and blasting all
Love's Paradise

THOMPSON.

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THE calm infused into Willoughby's mind by Ianthé's forgiveness, procured him a night of tranquillity and ease; the next day, to the surprise of every one, hopes began to be entertained of his recovery. Ianthé heard heard this pleasing intelligence with the most heart-felt joy which increased the pleasure that arose from the prospect of her brother's returning health.

Lady Sydenham was defirous that Albert and his fifter should remain with her, till thearrival of Sir James and Lady Claremont; but they had proposed to return to Ruthlin, to prepare every thing for the reception of their parents, as foon as Albert should be recovered, and therefore declined continuing in Grosvenor Square. The Miss Sydenhams were confiderably relieved to find they would not remain much longer in town, for, conscious that their persidy was discovered, they were glad to be rid of the presence of their cousins, which

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which was a continual reproach to Ianthé joined in very few of their parties, and confined herfelf chiefly to the society of Albert, Gabriella, and Montalde, and thus unknowingly increased the violence of the latter's passion. It was not nourished by hope, as he had been informed of her affection for Lord Raymond; he therefore determined to try the effects of absence in conquering his fatal love. Madam d'Auvergne was not surprised at his sudden resolution of retiring immediately into Wales, as she had long witnessed the inward struggles of his mind, to detach himself from Ianthé. The cottage he was to reside in, had been purchased for him by a lawyer, and he was ignorant of its being but ashort distance from Ruthlin

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lin Hall, though he knew it was fituated in the fame county. The circumstance of its being so near the residence of his friends, he would have rejoiced at, but for his unhappy passion. The romantic and picturesque scenery, with which he had been told Wales abounded, had induced him to choose his retirement there, as his sister's taste and his own were congenial.

The deepest concern was in the countenance of Montalde, when he bade adieu to Ianthé, who embraced Gabriella with tears in her eyes, though she wiped them hastily away, considering it a weakness, as they were to meet again in so short a time. She had persuaded the latter to let Adolphus remain with her,

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till she returned to Ruthlin Hall, as she was extremely fond of him. They exacted a promise from each other to write often, which neither was disposed to neglect. As Albert continued to recover, Ianthé flattered herfelf they would foon be able to return to Wales, for she was impatient to revisit the happy scenes of her youth, for which a knowledge of the world had increased her relish. Her heart sickened at the contemplation of the felfishness of mankind, who, folely intent upon their own gratification, shrink from diffreffes, fuffering worth, and innocence. Some highly exalted characters she had met with, to reconcile her to human nature; but the number was comparatively fmall. How different from the glowing picture

when her imagination represented every being as good, as virtuous, and as innocent as herself!

Then glows the breast, as op'ning roses fair, More free, more vivid, than the linnet's wing; Honest as light, transparent ev'n as air, Tender as buds, and lavish as the spring.

Not all the force of manhood's active might, Not all the craft to subtle age assign'd, Not science shall extort that dear delight, Which gay delusion gave the tender mind.*

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The accidental fight of Ianthé, which Lord Raymond had at Richmond, heightened his misery; though hope whispered she might yet be guiltless; he was conscious that his precipitation in relinquishing her, without any previous explanation,

^{*} SHENSTONE.

must forfeit every claim to her affection. The thought was agonizing, and his feelings nearly bordered on distraction. To amuse, by a change of scene, his distempered mind, he was continually making excursions to different places, and hoped by that fort of diffipation to relieve the poignancy of his reflections. After being absent for some weeks, he found, on his return home, a letter from Lord de Mountfort, which acquainted him with the death of his brother-inlaw, who had been thrown from his phaeton near Dublin, and was killed on the spot. Headded, how anxious he was to quit a place, that would bring the disagreeable recollection to his memory, and that he fhould be in Portman Square as foon as decorum would permit. Ray-Ainn

Raymond felt much for his fifter, as he was convinced this unexpected accident must wound her feelings acutely, though he knew Mr. Rivers was not the man of her choice. But he was ignorant of her former attachment, and concluded she had sustained the loss of him with pain, as her indifference was most probably converted into esteem. This idea, therefore, of her misfortunes increased his own, which were already more than he could well support.

Lady Laura had indeed experienced a severe shock from the melancholy circumstances that attended his death. Their affections however were not mutual; for he had never endeavoured to conciliate her regard by any tender attentions, but treated her with a churlishness of manners

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very grating to a woman of fensibility. Gaming, hunting, and drink. ing occupied fo much of his time, that he was feldom with her; and the would have been in a fituation very dangerous for a beautiful young lady, if her father, who faw with grief her unprotected state, had not remained with her longer than he had at first intended, with the expectation that a reform would take place in the conduct of Mr. Rivers. The afperity of Lord de Mountfort's temper was now foftened, by finding, that however highly he thought of his own judgment, yet he might err; as it was obvious to every one, and he could not conceal it from himself, that the extravagance of his fon-in-law would have defeated the views he had indulged of his daughdaughter's aggrandizement; and that there was every prospect of her becoming a beggar. But notwithstanding past experience, no sooner had death laid his icy hand on the inconfiderate victim, than all these apprehenfions vanished; and he began to regret chimerical loffes, forgetting his daughter's fortunate escape from the mortifying situation of an indigent woman of quality; a condition, of all, the most pitiable, as the unfeeling world is ever ready to vent the pointed farcasm on fallen nobility, fuffering under the lash of misfortune; a disposition particularly observable in those, whose ignoble descent prompts them to bring every one to their own level. Lord Raymond was informed by the newspapers of the duel between Wil-E 2 loughloughby and Mr. Claremont, and he trembled with anxiety for Ianthé, whose exquisite sensibility must have greatly affected her peace of mind on fuch an occasion. As the period drew near for the expected arrival of Lord de Mountfort and Lady Laura, he removed to Portman Square to receive them. He would walk feveral hours every night before Lady Sydenham's house, with the expectation of catching a glance at lanthé; but his trouble was unrequited, as the rarely went out, and feldom approached the window. Languid and disappointed, he at length gave up the fruitless pursuit, but procured daily intelligence of Albert's health.

Lord Raymond felt a long unexperienced gleam of pleasure at the fight fight of his father and fifter; the dejected appearance of the latter told her late fufferings; and when the first emotions of joy at feeing each other had subsided, her first question was after Ianthé; but she was astonished at the anguish in his countenance, and the confusion with which he related, in a voice scarcely audible, her recent distress. Lady Laura fighed, and faying they had been related in misfortune, mentioned her intention of calling on her the next day, and that he must be her escort. He evaded answering her, as his father was prefent, and began converfing on a fubject more remote from his heart. But the next day, when alone with his fifter, he opened himfelf fufficiently to let her fee that a coolness subsisted between him and Ianthé: E 3

lanthé; but he carefully concealed the cause, as he wished not to injure her in Lady Laura's opinion, who, supposing it some trisling difference, insisted he should accompany her to Grosvenor Square. However reluctant he appeared, he sound himself obliged either to comply or to explain his situation: yet he selt a pleasure in the expectation of seeing lanthé, that he could not restrain, and would not own to himself.

Ianthé was reading to Albert when Lord Raymond and Lady Laura were introduced; she hastily threw down the book, and was in an instant folded in her friend's embrace. The tears of joy trembled in her beauteous eyes, and her cheeks, enlivened by pleasure, emulated the delicate

delicate blush of the rose; but the lovely fuffusion fled, when she perceived Lord Raymond advance to make his compliments, and she reeeived them with the fame confusion with which they were delivered. The affliction the fair friends had fuffered fince their last meeting, had made great devastations in their perfons, and was very discernible to each other. Lord Raymond was wounded to the quick, at the alteration in Ianthe's appearance from grief, and at the sadness visible in her countenance, when the transient pleasure had subsided which the fight of her friend had inspired. Yet without accusing him of being unfeeling, he would have felt happy had he known he was himself the principal cause of her dejection, as

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he could instantly have removed it, by assuring her of his unabated love. As Ianthé never addressed herself to him, but considered his presence as an insult, he shortened his visit, as much as possible, to the great chagrin of Lady Laura, who unwillingly accompanied him; but not till she had obtained a promise from Miss Claremont and her brother, to be in Portman Square the next day.

Ianthé was uneasy at the idea of meeting Lord Raymond, but fortunately she was spared this embarrassment, as he was absent the whole day, purposely to avoid her. Lady Laura thought his conduct very mysterious; but she had too much delicacy to require an explanation from lanthé, as she did not

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appear to wish the subject introduced; her own heart fluttered exceedingly, when informed of Lord Lindors' invariable constancy, and the frequent interviews he had with Ianthé, merely to converse about his beloved Laura; but the disappointment the latter had met with, and the uncertainty she had experienced of the best founded hopes and expectations, restrained her from encouraging the pleasing prospects, that would imperceptibly steal into her imagination. Ianthé and Albert visited her constantly, as the latter was quite recovered, and Willoughby almost cured of his wounds. The former had no longer any excuse for dejection, she was therefore obliged by exerting her spirits to conceal the inelancholy that preyed E 5 upon

upon her; but when alone, she funk under its weight. The presence of Lord Raymond seldom pained her, as he was generally absent, from the dread of meeting her; yet the conflict of her mind was fo fevere, that it visibly affected her health, notwithstanding her efforts to conceal it. To the anxious inquiries of her friends, the alledged that London did not agree with her, and that the air of the Welch mountains would foon restore her. Albert was of the same opinion, and presfed her departure for Wales, which the willingly confented to; and they were to begin their journey the following week. Lady Laura, when informed of their intention. faid she would endeavour to prevail on Lord de Mountfort to visit the castle, castle, as she had another motive to induce her, besides being near her striend, which was to see the lovely Gabriella and gallant Montalde, whom she was quite charmed with from the description she had received of them.

Ianthé was very early in Portman Square the morning before she began her journey; as Lady Laura was dressing, she desired that she might not be interrupted, and amused herself in playing with little Adolphus; a deep-drawn sigh near her suddenly drew her attention, and turning hastily round, she beheld leaning against the wall, the sigure of Lord Raymond, in whose countenance grief and despair were strongly depicted: supposing him E 6

at Richmond, the furprize at feeing him made her turn fo pale, that, apprehensive she was going to faint, he flew to her, and in an incoherent manner expressed his forrow for having alarmed her-" But I am fated," he exclaimed, " to make you wretched; did you know what I have suffered, the hours of anguish I have passed, when this, this only, faid he, taking a miniature of her from his bosom, was my consolation, you would feel for me." Ianthe now inclined her head over the child, endeavouring in vain to conceal her tears, which fell fast on his. face: "I fee you compaffionate me," continued Lord Raymond, but I disdain the pity of the woman to whom I have aspired; 'tis madness to think of it. Oh! that the cause that

that rends my heart were removed, and I could find you innocent as my warm fancy had pictured, and, folding you in these arms, forget how wretched you have made me! Weak fool as I am! I could not resist once more gazing at that face which promised me every happiness. Yet I forgive you, Ianthé, all the pangs you have inflicted, and my latest breath shall be for your felicity." He did not observe, in the distracted state of his mind, that his last words were unheeded by her to whom they were addreffed, till roufed by the deep fobs that burst from her agitated bosom, he hastened to her, and taking her in his arms accused himself of cruelty, while the innocent fufferer was infensible to all that paffed. His

His endeavours to restore her were fuccefsful, and not daring to trust himfelf any longer than she was recovered, he tore himself away from her. Ianthé could hardly believe the reality of what had happened; till finding she could not be deceived, she burst into tears. "He is gone then," the exclaimed, "and retains the belief of my infidelity; how undeserving am I of his cruel reproaches! Unfeeling Raymond, was it possible you could suspect the purity of my heart! But, no, recollecting herfelf, his emotions were feigned; fome other object possesses his heart, and he has formed this plaufible excuse to break his engagement. I will conquer my predilection for him, as he has proved unworthy of it." Alas! unfortunate ANT Ianthé!

Ianthé! too deep had been the impression to be easily eradicated; nor
was the resentment you selt of long
duration; soon did the unpleasant
part of the picture vanish, and bring
to your memory the graces that
had captivated your mind. It represented him handsome, elegant and
engaging, adorned with every virtue,
to make his loss more severe. She
might with great justice have said
with the poet, that "the course of
"true love never did run smooth."

With the utmost difficulty lanthe evaded Lady Laura's questions, at perceiving the traces of tears on her cheek, as she did not wish to cause any additional uneasiness to her friend, who had already drunk of the cup of sorrow to its very dregs,

and would feel bitterly the errors of Lord Raymond; she, therefore, affumed a cheerfulness during the remainder of the day, quite foreign to her heart, but which succeeded in misleading Lady Laura, who hoped she was deceived in supposing lanthé had any inward source of grief.

Albert ordered the chaife early the next morning; and as nothing impeded their immediate departure, having taken leave of the family the preceding night, Ianthé, who was impatient for it, entered the carriage with alacrity. She could not avoid contrasting her journey to town with the present one, which the company of her brother rendered so much more comfortable than when a solitary, friendless being, she had no one

one to foothe her drooping spirits, or pour a lenient balm into her aching heart. They travelled thirty miles a day, and viewed every place on the road, worthy notice. Ianthé had observed at several of the first stages where they stopped a gentleman very much muffled up, whose figure bore a strong resemblance to Lord Raymond; but the improbability of fuch a circumstance induced her to believe the was deceived, tho' the found of his voice when he spoke to the postillion might alone have convinced her it was he.

The re-establishment of the old fervants in their places at Ruthlin-Hall, had given the first intelligence of the expected return of the family, which

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which was hailed with joy by the poor inhabitants of the neighbouring village, as they had keenly felt the loss of their benefactors, and fighed for their presence. The carriage entered Landriff Cliff amidst the acclamations of the people, who testified their joy by every demonstration of rustic mirth and jollity. The bells of the antient village church rung merrily, and vibrated at a distance not unpleasantly on the ear of Albert, who sent some money to be distributed among the inhabitants, to their great satisfaction.

It was the latter end of March, when they arrived at Ruthlin Hall, and the trees began to bud forth their vernal beauties. Encouraged by the unusual warmth of the sea-

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fon, already were the banks covered with primroses; and the blue violet, which encircled by common plants, like the wife and virtuous, shed a sweet odour around; whilst the flowers without perfume refembling the infignificant part of mankind, raised their proud heads oftentatiously to attract notice. These early offsprings of the year gave a foretaste of the luxuriant beauties which would afterwards crown it, and lanthé felt a glow of pleasure fpring in her heart at this lovely prospect of animated nature. The old woman who had attended on her when the paid her former melancholy visit, came to welcome her young master and mistress. " pless your la'ship's honor," said she, curtsying to her, "I pe glat " to

" to fee you and my honour't young " master, for fartin poth your hon-" ours looks put peeking and puny; " put some nice goat's fey fill soon " make you hearty again. Here " hath a bin a fine fhentleman and " laty, to inquire after you, and " they haf left this bit of card." Ianthé dismissed the old woman, and looking at the card, faw Madame d'Auvergne and Montalde's address at Glenmore Cottage. It gave her pleasure to find they were fuch near neighbours, as their residence was but four miles from Ruthlin. She was unacquainted with this before, as Gabriella, when the wrote, had forgotten to mention the name of the place, intending to write again. But she heard a short time after from her fervant, who had had lived formerly in Sir James Claremont's family, that Albert and Ianthé were daily expected at his house, which was in the neighbourhood. Agreeably surprized, she rode with her brother to Ruthlin Hall, where the pleasing intelligence was confirmed; and, thinking it useless, now gave up all thoughts of writing.

The following substitute albert and learning white their friend; they will the friend; they do of the friends; they do of the friends of the

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But yet his heart could not withstand
The force of mighty love;
Nor yet against a fair maid's eyes
His foul unfeeling prove.

And for this fault (if fault it was)

Let none condemn the youth;

For love I ween's companion meet

For courage and for truth.

WATKINS.

THE following morning Albert and Ianthé visited their friends; they were charmed with the situation of Glenmore Cottage, and surprized, that in all their rides they had never seen it before. The path to it was

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cut through an extensive wood, from which they descended into a glen; and the cottage then appeared in view; it was only one story high, neatly white-washed. The sweetfcented jessamin and the aromatic myrtle were twined round the pointed casements, filling the air with pleasing odours. Here the birds, whose liberty was never difturbed, fung with the fweetest harmony among the green foliage of the trees that furrounded it, whose branches, meeting at top, formed an arbour to shelter it from the fultry heats of fummer. A clear rivulet watered the neighbouring meadows, and murmured under the shade of an orchard near the cottage. In this clear water fported the ducks and their young ones: the

the gentle doves drank of the pure fream, and walking on the mosfly turf before it, added to the rural beauty of the scene.

This charming fpot feemed the abode of tranquil virtue and elegant fimplicity. The cottage was furnished in a style that did honour to the judicious taste of its owners. To guard against ennui, which might take poffession of the mind on a gloomy or rainy day, or when the coldness of Winter, or the burning heat of Summer forbade walking, an excellent library of books was provided, with a forte piano and feveral other musical instruments. Ianthé observed her name carved on the fmooth rind of the trees, and Albert rallied Montalde upon this piece

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piece of gallantry; but his confufion, which was more than the occasion justified, had very nearly betrayed his feelings. Mutual congratulations passed between the friends at meeting each other; Gabriella eagerly clasped her dear Adolphus to her bosom. The countenance of Montalde wore the refemblance of happiness, but his heart was torn with the most cruel anguish. He had been studious to avoid the fituation into which he was unwillingly thrown, from the conviction, that a frequent intercourse with the object of his regard would strengthen an attachment which he had wished to weaken by absence; but it was now impossible, as he could not quit his new refidence without incurring a variety of fuf-VOL. II. picions,

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picions, to which he would not willingly subject himself. He feared, that if the real cause were suspected, lanthé might deem it presumptuous in a man of his fallen fortune, to harbour a passion for her, and perhaps banish him entirely from her prefence; which would be the most cruel punishment: for, though he wished not to feed his love by being frequently with her, he trembled to forego that happiness for ever. The dejection which he observed to steal over her in her gayest moments, left him no hope, as he was convinced it must proceed from the affection the still retained for Lord Raymond. The retirement of Glenmore and its romantic scenery, were well adapted to an unfortunate lover; nothing offered to divert his melancholy, and every every object contributed to make him cherish his passion. A week passed in a manner extremely agreeable, varied alternately by visits from Montalde and his sister at Ruthlin, and of Albert and Ianthé at Glenmore; a congeniality of taste, producing a reciprocity of pleasure in each other's society. Gabriella was pensive from the remembrance of her missortunes, but Ianthé and her brother were very lively; and even Montalde, who was naturally gay, would often lose his dejection in their company.

The presence of Sir James and Lady Claremont now promised an additional happiness to their children, who had received a letter, dated London, which imparted the F 2 pleasing

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pleasing news, that the former would be at Ruthlin Hall in three days, accompanied by the Count Verrina, and his fifter Lady Rosa Verrina; the letter mentioned them both in terms of the highest admiration, and fpoke warmly of the polite attention received from them in Italy. How flowly did the time pass in lanthe's opinion, during the three days! on the fourth an avant courier announced that the travellers were but a few miles from Ruthlin. The blifsful moment at length arrived, and Lady Claremont and her daughter wept with joy in each other's arms, and for fome time were unable to speak, so much did this excess of happiness affect them. Sir James was quite recovered, but Lady Claremont looked extremely ill.

ill. Anxiety for those dearer to her than her existence, had impaired her constitution, and it was feared the consequence would be a consumption, as her lungs seemed to be assected; but she endeavoured to conceal her illness, that she might avoid embittering the happiness which Sir James and his children enjoyed after so long an absence.

When recovered from the first transports of joy, Ianthé had leisure to contemplate the Count and his sister The latter was a brunette, with features so exquisitely sine as rarely to be seen in England, and such as a Titian would have copied in forming a countenance, beautiful and captivating in the highest degree. Her sigure was

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tall and elegant, and she had an air of superior dignity. The count refembled Lady Rosa, but his complexion was much darker; he affected a statelines in his behaviour to every person, except those he wished to please, which made him rather respected than beloved; accustomed in his own country to a great deal of homage, he disliked the free manners of the English nation, and it was difficult to combat his prejudices, which in many instances were very strong.

Ianthé would have been perfectly happy, if the image of Lord Raymond, and the consciousness of his ill opinion, had not often intruded, and inflicted a pang which her greatest exertions of fortitude could not prevent; freel her heart with resentment, and flattered herself, that in time he would become quite indifferent to her. Lady Laura had written once, since she had left London, and mentioned Lord Lindors' having visited her, but of her brother she did not say any thing.

Ruthlin Hall was now the constant resort of company; its noble
owners wished to make it gay and
agreeable to the count and Lady
Rosa; they therefore visited all the
genteel people in the neighbourhood, and several families from the
nearest country town, whose sociable overtures they had hitherto declined. But it had been through
life the practice of Sir James and
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his lady, to facrifice their own inclinations to the happiness of others. No other motive influenced them in the present instance, as they disliked the society of country towns; cards and scandal being the chief sources of their amusement: nor could the inhabitants of Ruthlin escape the latter.

Miss Marian Clackit was often at Ruthlin Hall, to give lanthe some lessons of music, and she soon began to exercise her talents for defamation. She reported that Miss Claremont was to be married to Count Verrina, the secretly attached to Montalde, and had sacrificed her love to interest. Gabriella, she added, was Albert's mistress, and little Adolphus his child. As officious

Thou! to whom the world unknown
With all its shadowy shapes is known,
Who seest appall'd th' unreal scene,
While fancy lifts the veil between;
Ah, fear! ah, frantic fear!
I see, I see thee near!
I know thy hurried step, thy haggard eye!
Like thee I start, like thee disordered sty.
Collins.

THE fun had risen from behind the distant hills; all nature seemed awake; the swallow twittered from beneath the thatched roof of the rustic cottage; the lively lark sung gaily as he rose in the air, and the dew was yet glittering on the plants when

when Ianthé left her apartment with Alice. They got up at an early hour, before the family were moving, that they might vifit the haunted rooms, and explore them without being molested. Ianthétripped lightly over the dewy grass, reluctantly followed by Alice to the chapel door-It was overhung with ivy, and sheltered a number of birds, which their quick approach frighted away. The rusty key turned with a grating noise in the lock, and it required their united efforts to force it open. The noise it made, as it turned on its hinges, refounded in hollow echoes through the roofless walls, which were discoloured by the droppings of unwholesome dews. They passed hastily along this scene of defolation, and entered a passage by

by a pair of massy iron gates; they walked a long way in darkness, and ascended a flight of steps, which led them by a door into one of the apartments. It was unfurnished, but hung round with antient family portraits of Lord St. Clair's anceftors. Ianthé had never been in these apartments before, and was furprised at her own want of curiofity, in not having viewed them till now. They proceeded to the other rooms, when a fudden noise made Alice hefitate, as fhe was going to undraw the bolt of a door that opened into one of them. All was again filent, till a hollow groan made her heart faulter with terror. lanthé had heard it likewise, and endeavoured to cheer her drooping spirits, but in vain. A repetition

of the same dreadful sound, (overwhelmed as she was with the idea of its being fomething supernatural) made her fall convulfed with horror, almost fenseless on the ground. Ianthé dreaded a deprivation of her own fenfes, for she feared her companion was dead; an icy coldness having taken possession of her like the chill of death. At length, to her mistress's great relief, she recovered; and Ianthé hastened her away from this place, as she dreaded, if the same sounds were repeated, that she would relapse; fortunately they were not; and both, trembling with agitation, left the haunted rooms. Ianthé forbade Alice to mention what had paffed to the other fervants, which was quite a punishment, being impatient to relate the whole of what she had seen and heard; but she made herself amends by continually talking of it to her young lady, who was lost in doubt what it might be. It pressed so heavily on her mind, that she was often silent, inattentive, and absorbed in reslection. Lady Claremont, who observed her so frequently absent, was exceedingly uneasy at it, the said nothing to her daughter.

This excellent lady found her health daily declining, and that it would be impossible to spare the feelings of those she loved, by concealing it much longer. She had neglected herself till it was too late; and was ordered to Bristol as the last remedy. To this however she did

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not incline, convinced it would prolong her life but a short time; and she wished to die quietly in the bosom of her family. Neither Albert nor lanthé knew the extent of her danger, and it was carefully concealed from the latter, whose fensibility would have destroyed her, had she known it.

The Count still continued to perfecute Ianthé with his addresses; but she did not dare to complain of him to Lady Claremont, fearing to agitate her spirit by a disappointment of her wishes. She no less dreaded to mention it to her father or brother, lest a quarrel might be the consequence, as, since the affair of Willoughby, she shuddered at being in any shape the cause of contention.

Count she was never unaccompanied by Lady Rosa, whose heart appeared as much oppressed as her own. Each was anxious to disburthen her mind by a mutual considence, but neither had resolution to set the other an example. The latter indeed thought she had divined the source of lanthe's sorrow in her brother's passion, and that it grieved her to be unable to requite it.

Montalde came feldom to Ruthlin, and Gabriella generally remained at Glenmore with him, as she had an equal aversion with himself to the Count. Ianthè had therefore no other opportunity of seeing them but at the cottage, whither she often went with Lady Rosa, who was as partial to Gabriella as herfelf. It was impossible indeed for a good heart to avoid loving her, as fhe united to a superior understanding the most winning complacency of manners: fhe had imbibed, tho' fo young, from early forrow, that true wisdom which is gained by constant habits of reflection, and produced by various experience in life. Of other's failings she judged with lenity; but of her own with feverity. To relieve a distressed object she would deprive herfelf of what is generally called pleafure, but to her fuch relief was the supremest gratification; yet she fought no witnesfes to her benevolence, being totally devoid of oftentation, and actuated only by charitable motives. Faithful to the memory of her husband, the she would not hear of another attachment; but centered her whole happiness in her child and her brother. Her affection for Miss Claremont nearly equalled her love for them, which was first excited by gratitude, and afterwards heightened by the sweetness of her disposition and manners.

Tho' Ianthé had a friendship for Lady Rosa, it was an inferior regard to that she entertained for Gabriella; the former had an excellent heart, but was more violent in her temper, from having been too much indulged when a child, and possessing no command over her passions. From being frequently witness to the merits of Montalde, her heart became far from indifferent to him. Ga-

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briella,

briella, who had a great deal of penetration, beheld her attachment with pleafure, as she knew his love for Ianthé must be hopeless. She wished him to be attached to Lady Rosa, who, though inferior to Miss Claremont, was handsome, possessed many estimable qualities, and had a large fortune. As no other match could be fo eligible for him, it was her first wish that such an union should take place, and she lost no opportunity of praising her to Montalde; but he received these encomiums with a coldness which made it perceptible, that one alone reigned without a rival in his heart. He had none of the vanity so inherent in Frenchmen, or the conduct of Lady Rofa would have convinced him of her partiality, which hourly

hourly increased, and became even obvious to lanthé, whom she made her confidante, with many expresfions of forrow for having imbibed a hopeless passion. The latter was touched with pity for her, tho' she could not but think her imprudent to indulge fo violent an attachment without any prospect of a return. But these sentiments were carefully concealed in her own bosom, and she gave Lady Rofa every confolation in her power. She confidered Montalde as very infenfible in neglecting the advances of fo beautiful a woman, and could only account for his indifference by fuspecting he had an attachment to fome lady in France.

Lady Rosa requested Ianthé, though with much confusion, that as she excelled in painting minia-

tures, she would favour her with a likeness of Montalde; the latter complied with great reluctance, confidering it as indulging her friend in a weakness, that might be dangerous to her future peace, were she not to meet with a reciprocal regard. But unwilling to refuse her, fhe began the likeness, and was engaged one morning about it, when Count Verrina and Montalde entered the room, where she was drawing. She put it hastily into her pocket, as the latter always noticed her employments. More company coming in, she did not recollect it, till the retired at night, when the difcovered it was missing. This was productive of the utmost distress to her, as it must convey an idea to the perfon that found the miniature, of her being being partial to Montalde, which suspicion she could not clear but by betraying Lady Rosa. The next morning she searched every where, but without success: to spare the latter any uneasiness, she determined to begin another, and not mention the one she had lost; flattering herself it had been found by some labourer, or by a beggar, to relieve whom she recollected having taken out her purse, when walking with Montalde and Lady Rosa.

A week had elapsed, since Ianthé had seen Gabriella, and she was impatient for that pleasure. Lady Rosa being confined to her room with a slight cold, she walked alone to Glenmore; Montalde was reading in the parlour, and informed

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her that his fifter was absent with Adolphus, but would return in a few minutes, and inteated her to stay. Ianthé felt disappointed, and was impatient for Gabriella's return, observing Montalde's eyes fixed upon her with a tenderness that quite confused her, as it was directly opposite to his general behaviour. She was hefitating how to relieve herfelf from fo distressing a situation, when Montalde, placing a favourable interpretation on her evident confufion, was eager to feize an opportunity, which might not again offer, of declaring himfelf. With no inconfiderable degree of hesitation he disclosed his passion, and the many struggles he had suffered to confine it to his own bosom, where it would have been for ever buried, but for a circum-

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circumstance that had emboldened him to folicit her compassion, as he flattered himself she had seen what had lately paffed in his heart.

lanthé remained in filent consternation some time after he had finished speaking, being shocked at the error he had fallen into, and hurt to give pain to a character of fo much worth. She was convinced that he had found the picture, and drawn a conclusion of her partiality from her having painted it, and she felt it impossible to undeceive him about the motive. Unable to fustain the mortifying reflection, she burst into tears. Montalde was much affected and angry with himfelf for occasioning her so much uneasiness; but he felt all the horrors of the G 4

most cruel disappointment, when, in terms as much foftened as poffible, she assured him, that friendthip was all the had to bestow, and that if he supposed she entertained any other fentiment for him, he was quite deceived. Wanting fortitude to witness the agony into which his wounded feelings had thrown him, she arose to leave the cottage, but was met at the door by Madame d'Auvergne, who anxiously inquired the occasion of the forrow visible in her countenance. lanthé desired to speak with her alone, and then imparted to her friend the cruel embarrassment she was in respecting the picture, and that she feared, notwithstanding her refusal, it might tempt Montalde to cherish the fallacious hope thatthat she had a regard for him, which fhe would not avow. To betray Lady Rosa's partiality, she thought, would be highly ungenerous, as he might perhaps think lightly of her delicacy from fuch a circumstance. Gabriella tried to console Ianthé, and advised her to explain the story of the picture, as gratitude might raise in his bosom an esteem for Lady Rosa, when he found his passion for herself was totally hopeless. Ianthé, notwithstanding these arguments, was yet undetermined how to act, and the friends agreed to consider more about it. before the discovery should be made. Ianthé intreated Gabriella to pay her an early visit at Ruthlin, as she disliked coming to Glenmore, fince Montalde had avowed his fenti-G 5 ments:

ments; but they concluded, when they separated, to keep the affair from Lady Rosa's knowledge, as it would make her unhappy without answering any purpose. Where is the dappled pink, the sprightly rose?
The cowslip's golden cup no more I see:
Dark and discolour'd ev'ry flow'r that blows,
To form the garland, Elegy! for thee.

Enough of tears has wept the virtuous dead:

Ah! might we now the pious rage control!

Hush'd be my grief ere ev'ry smile be fled,

Ere the deep-swelling sigh subvert the soul!

Shenstone.

IANTHÉ was alarmed on her return home, with an account of Lady Claremont's having been seized with repeated fainting sits, which had weakened her so much, that she was dangerously ill. She hastened to her beloved mother,

and was terrified at perceiving a vifible alteration in her countenance. She fat up with her all night, and would fuffer no one to give her any medecines but herfelf. For five days the continued the fame unremitted attention, only fleeping a few hours in the morning, tho' repeatedly intreated not to endanger her own health; but she could not be prevailed on to confide her to the care of any one but herfelf, as every other confideration was loft in apprehension for her mother's life. On the fixth day Lady Claremont was apparently much better, but almost reduced to a shadow. She expressed a wish to get up, and was led into her dreffing room, where the fat till nine o'clock, and was in tolerable spirits. Sir James, his his children, and Lady Rosa, were with her, and congratulated themselves on her appearing so little fatigued with the exertion. She insisted that Ianthé should go to bed
early, as she looked like a ghost,
with constant watching and anxiety
for her mother, and Lady Rosa offered to supply Miss Claremont's
place for that night.

When Lady Claremont retired to her apartment, she stopped some minutes at the door, and looked round at them all, with an expression so particularly mournful in her countenance, as gave a reslecting shock to the whole company. She appeared convinced by her inward feelings, that she was then dying, and should never see them more.

In the middle of the night, finding death fast approaching, she defired Sir James might be called to the bed-fide; when he drew near, fhe faintly faid, support me, my beloved husband; in your arms, I have ever prayed to die; I feel I am expiring, I intreat you will not indulge immoderate grief for my lofs, but shew an example of fortitude to my children. My poor Ianthé will require a testimony of your firmness to moderate the excess of her affliction; I am happy she is spared this parting scene; it would have fallen heavily upon her. Tell her to be refigned, and thankful that my last moments are sweet and composed. May the fervent piety that fills my heart be a confolation to your's, my dear Sir James;

receive

receive my grateful thanks for the many years of happiness I have pasfed with you. ... As she pronounced these words, the paleness of death overspread her countenance, which was still mild and ferene, and her eyes were raifed to heaven with a fublime expression. She spoke no more, and in a few minutes, closed her life without a groan, as if going to fleep. Thus was the world deprived of one of its greatest ornaments in a character eminent for every virtue, and whose loss to her family was irreparable. Sir James remained for fome minutes contemplating the melancholy object of his loss in filent and affecting grief, but with calm and manly refignation. Distress had taken deep root, in his mind, without any of those violent symptoms which indicate ungovernable forrow. The reflection, that her death was worthy of her virtuous life, foftened his anguish, and he endeavoured, by conquering his regret, to obey her last injunctions, in mitigating the bitterness of his daughter's forrow. Upon her this stroke fell with the greater force, as she was ignorant of the misery for which she was referved, having flattered herfelf that her mother was recovering. When the melancholy event was broken to her, she was for several hours in fuch violent hysterics, that her life was despaired of, and the unfortunate Sir James feared he should have to mourn his daughter's loss together with his wife's. She was recovered with much difficulty; but her delicate frame could not support such a tide of forrow,

forrow, and the funk into a lingering fever. The house was a continual scene of lamentation from the tears' and groans of the domestics, by whom Lady Claremont was beloved in the highest degree. But the most pathetic and touching scene took place at her interment. Crouds of poor people, who had experienced her benevolence, followed her to the grave, uttering the most piercing expressions of grief for the loss of their adored benefactress. This was indeed a most honorable tribute to her memory, and the only confolation those who loved her were susceptible of.

Some months elapsed before lanthé could feel the least interest in any thing, so deeply was grief impressed

pressed in her bosom; an habitual fadness preyed upon her, which was alleviated by the fentiments of religion that were predominant in her heart, and gave her strength to bear her misfortunes, by teaching her to be refigned to her fate. She remembered, with an enthusiasm of affection, the departed happiness the had enjoyed with her beloved mother, and that remembrance foothed the forrow she experienced for her loss. Ruthlin had now lost all its charms, fince the being who had adorned it, was gone; and Sir James, who felt that it reminded him of the felicity which was fled, mentioned to her his intention of making the tour of England, in order to divert his wounded mind. She readily concurred in this plan, from

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from the hope it would be beneficial to his health, which she perceived daily declining.

Count Verrina had left Wales foon after Lady Claremont's death, and was in London; but Lady Rofa remained with Ianthé, and by her tender attention softened her forrows. Never had the appeared in fo amiable a light. The latter fecretly and fervently wished, that Montalde might become fensible of her worth. He had frequent opportunities of conversing with her alone, when he came to inquire after Ianthe's health, and tho' she daily improved upon him, from the pity she expressed for her, which inspired him with the highest esteem, yet his former affection remained with with unabated force, and promifed nothing favorable for a fecond paffion. He frequently mentioned Lady Rosa to his fifter in terms of the highest admiration, which encouraged her to fay, when he was more than usually warm in her praise, that it was much to be regretted that " fo much beauty and worth should be the prey of hopeless love." Montalde furprised, replied with energy, that he thought it impossible for any one, whose heart was unengaged, to be indifferent to her. Gabriella, who pretended to be ignorant that he was still attached to lanthé, then added, the was delighted to hear him of this opinion, and confessed, that he was the object of Lady Rosa's regard, and that the picture drawn by Miss Claremont was for her; her; conjuring him not to give, even by his conduct, the least intimation of it, as it would hurt her delicacy beyond description, to have a fecret known, she blushed to acknowledge to herfelf. Montalde had too much honor to render fuch a request necessary, but the contending emotions that agitated his breast, almost distracted him. His heart was filled however with gratitude and pity for Lady Rosa, sentiments that promised in time to become a fofter fensation, when he had conquered hislove for Ianthé, which had yet lost none of its fervour.

Ianthè was in the mean time, agreeably surprised by the sight of Lady Laura; whom she did not expect, as her last letter mentioned

that the was to remain fome months at Bath, with her father. But on hearing of her friend's lofs, she had prevailed upon him to return to Wales, that she might confole her, by mingling her tears with Ianthe's. The meeting was affecting, as the remembrance of the late melancholy event was brought forcibly to their minds by feeing each other. Lady Laura was much attached to the late excellent Lady Claremont, as her goodness and virtue were tempered with the utmost fweetness. This made her particularly pleasing to young people, who shrink from the austerity that in general, accompanies rigid morals. Lady Laura told Ianthé, she was come with a request from Lord de Mountfort, that Sir James, Albert, Lady Rofa and and herfelf, would do him the honor of passing some time at the caftle, as it would divert their minds from the unpleasant reflections that must necessarily arise at Ruthlin, where every object reminded them of their loss. Ianthé tried to evade this proposal, to which she was rather averse, from the fear of meeting Lord Raymond. Lady Laura was, however, so earnest in her intreaties, that she could not refist them; and as Sir James complied without hesitation, it was fixed for them to visit the castle on the following day.

Lord de Mountfort received them with his usual stately politeness, and said his son was absent with a party of gentlemen, on a hunting party, which

which he had been engaged to join fome days, but would return in the evening. Ianthe's heart palpitated at the idea of feeing him, as she had hoped he would not have been at the castle, knowing she was to be there. But eafily would he have received her forgiveness, could she have gueffed his motives. Soon after lanthé left London he was furprised at seeing Lord Lindors in Portman Square, and as the latter was (tho' innocently,) the destroyer of his peace, he could not view him without painful emotions. These ungovernable sensations influenced his behaviour to Lord Lindors, which was as cold and distant as politeness would permit. Lady Laura observed with concern, that this repulsive conduct was not unnoticed doidar

noticed by Lord Lindors, who was hurt to be treated with fo much neglect by the brother of the woman he loved. Well acquainted with the native goodness of Raymond's heart, she resolved to come to an explanation with him, as she was convinced he would not fhun the friendship of such an estimable character as her lover, if he did not labour under some error respecting him. When she had formed this resolution, she introduced the fubject, by speaking of Lord Lindors, and discovered immediately, that her brother was jealous of him, from supposing he was a favored admirer of Janthe's, In juftice to her friend, Lady Laura difclosed the secret of the mutual attachment which had subsisted be-VOL. II. H tween

tween Lord Lindors and herself. This discovery, the it relieved Raymond of inexpressible anxiety, left a sufficient portion of uneasiness to make him miserable. He selt how unpardonably he had acted in his cruel treatment of lanthe, particularly in their last interview, when he had overwhelmed her with the severest reproaches.

Ianthé was not deceived in the supposition she had formed, that the person who followed the carriage from London, bore a strong retemblance to Lord Raymond, as it was indeed himself. Tho' ignorant at that time of her innocence, be could not resist the romantic project that seized him, of being near her, and he travelled several stages,

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purposely to have that gratification. Now, that he discovered the injuries she had received, his love revived with greater force, and he determined to go to Wales, and watch for an opportunity of meeting her alone, to unfold his heart, and confessing the fincerity of his repentance, implore her pity; a pardon which he hardly dared to expect. To conceal himfelf from the observation of his father's tenants, he put on an old naval uniform, wore a large wig, and a black patch over his left eye, and in this difguise, lodged at a cottage near Ruthlin, where he passed by the name of Lieutenant Smith. He repaired every night to the haunted apartments, by a subterraneous pasfage he was fecretly acquainted with H 2

with. He fung feveral nights under her window with the hope, that The would recollect his voice; but he was disappointed, as he never once entered her thoughts, from the apparent impossibility of such circumstance, after what had pasfed. At length, quite in despair. as he never had the good fortune to fee her alone,—he began to fear a rival in Count Verrina, for his conscience whispered to him, that he merited to be banished from her memory. One night, when he had watched later than usual, feeling himself fatigued, he retired to the haunted rooms, where fleep furprifed him, till long after the first dawn of morning. He was disturbed by a terrific dream, in which Ianthé was reprefented as murdered

murdered by the Count Verrina, and he uttered deep groans, which made him awake in horror. Ianthé and her maid were in the apartment adjoining to that where he flept, and it was the noise of these groans that inspired them with so much terror. He started up at the found of voices, but would not open the door, from the fear of being discovered; and remained quiet, till he heard the last echo of their footsteps through the building. He then entered apartment whence the noise had proceeded, and looking through the casement saw Miss Claremont and Alice paffing haftily over the lawn. This made him instantly conjucture, that they were the persons who had alarmed him. Apprehensive of a discovery, should they return,

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he quitted Ruthlin immediately, and throwing off his disguise, travelled directly to London, where he joined Lord de Mountfort and his sister, and accompanied them to Bath, carefully concealing his late excursion from their knowledge.

When they returned to the castle, Lord Raymond was agitated with hope and fear; sometimes his imagination pictured lanthé as faithful to her sirst attachment, and disposed to forgive him; then would the pleasing delusion vanish, and he would figure her to himself as the assianced wife of the Count, regarding him with contempt for his easy credulity to her disadvantage. When the account reached him of Lady Claremont's death, he suffered the

keenest sorrow, and trembled for the effect it would have on her daughter, whose quick sensibility he well knew. Lady Laura, who pitied his anxiety, relieved it as much as possible, by communicating the contents of every letter she received from Ruthlin. He was impatient to see lanthe, and selt mortished, that a prior engagement should delay his happiness, tho' he had hardly resolution to appear before her, conscious of the wrongs she had received from him.

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James, be approached labilités with was feated between his illes au

AMOR TO Provinced did:

He knew, no studied, artful phrase Her steady mind would move, But nobly trusted to his worth To win the fair one's love.

And well did she his truth repay,
Her gentle heart she gave:
Thus beauty ever should reward
The virtuous and the brave.

LORD Raymond did not return to the castle till six o'clock. After paying his compliments to Sir James, he approached Ianthé, who was seated between his sister and Lady

Lady Rosa, and addressed her with a grace peculiar to himself, tho' he wore an air of embarrassment. He appeared to Ianthé handsomer than ever; his light hair dishevelled by the wind, which had blown out all the powder, hung in loofe ringlets on his forehead: and his countenance had a glow of health and gayety, that gave an unufual brilliancy to his fine dark eyes. He endeavoured to gain her attention, and made feveral efforts to enter into conversation with her: but she continued referved to him, as she wished to feel offended, although his manners were so respectful, tender and infinuating, that her refolution was almost conquered. But she excused her weakness by flattering herself he would offer a proper H 5 apology apology for his conduct, and thus endeavoured to reconcile her reason to what her inclination approved. Lord Raymond suffered the utmost disquietude from the uncertainty of regaining her affection, which he dreaded having forfeited. The strength of his attachment was increased rather than diminished; and he took advantage of every opportunity of being with her, and shewing a tenderness she could not misunderstand.

Ianthé observed with delight, that her father's health and spirits were visibly amended, and she felt happier than she had been since her mother's death. She consented therefore with less reluctance to remain with Lady Laura, who had obtained

obtained Sir James's permission, who was confiderably recovered, and no longer fo anxious for her to accompany him, as Albert would supply her place, till he joined the regiment, into which he had lately purchased. The grief Ianthé had fustained for Lady Claremont's loss, was now fettled into a pensive melancholy, that rendered her beyond description interesting; her mourning habit made the beauty of her complexion appear with additional luftre, and her gentle features wore a foft expression of forrow. When she had once seized on the heart, it was impossible to cease loving her, as she united to her beauty a pure and noble foul, which had fascinated Lord Raymond more than her exterior charms. How en-H 6 chanting

chanting, he thought, to fee her beauteous eyes swim in tears at a tale of woe, and to behold the fweetness of her smile when she created happiness by relieving an object in diffress. Lord Raymond was riding one day to Glenmore with his fifter, Ianthé, and Lady Rosa, when they met an old man, bending under an immense burden of sticks. Seventy years had whitened his venerable head; his beard hung in fnowy waves to his girdle; yet not a wrinkle was to be feen in his forehead, and his ruddy cheeks still denoted remaining health, tho' his steps were feeble and tottering. Lord Raymond gave him fome money, and the old man's heart warmed with gratitude. He exclaimed, " how good is your lordship! "If my fon resembled you in be"nevolence, I should end my days
"in happiness, and not endure the
"stings of poverty, that are has"tening me to a grave, from
"which I have been kept too long.
"Honor me, by hearing a relation
"of my misfortunes, and you will
"consider me as a real object of
"compassion." Lord Raymond

affented with condescension and the

old man thus began:

"I was formerly a reputable tradesman in a country town, and married a young woman of the same rank as myself; we had one son, to whom we gave a religious and virtuous education. A relation in the East Indies had often requested we would send him

" him out, as he could put him in a

" way to make a capital fortune;

" but this we were averse to, as he

" was our only child; till meeting

" with some unexpected losses in

" trade, we adopted it as our best

" plan, and stripped ourselves of

every thing, to accommodate

" him with necessaries for the

" voyage. After we had parted

" from him, our circumstances

" continued to grow worse, and

" within a few years afterwards,

we were intirely ruined; I was

" thrown into prison for a debt of

" forty pounds; the shock of it

" killed my poor wife a short time

" after, and I remained in the grea-

test wretchedness, as there seemed

" to be no end to my fufferings.

" I supposed my son to be dead, as

" I had

" I had received no account of him

" fince he left me. But a ray of

" comfort shone upon me, when

" I was informed, that he was re-

" turned from India with a large

" fortune. Almost expiring with

" joy, I wrote immediately to him,

" requesting assistance, but received

" no answer. Supposing the letter

" had not reached him, I wrote

" again; it was answered by his

" fleward, who faid, his mafter

" would not think of paying the

" money for my release, as he

" thought a prison the best place

" for a man of my age. This

" cruel letter stung me to the heart,

" and brought on an illness, from

" which I recovered with difficulty.

" A benevolent gentleman visited

" the prison soon after, and having

" heard

" heard my story, generously paid

"the money for me, and made me
"a handsome present besides. I
"directly repaired to my son's
"house, but the servants were or"dered to turn me from the door.
"Overwhelmed with horror at
"his unnatural behaviour, I tore
"my grey hairs, and wished not
"to outlive the ingratitude of my
"child, to whom I resolved never
"to apply again. Having an old
"friend, who lived near this place,
"I went to see him, and remained

" with him till his death. I was then too much enfeebled by age

" to remove to a great distance, and

" have continued ever fince to drag

" on a miserable life, embittered

" by poverty and an infirm consti-

" tution." Lord Raymond expref-

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fed his indignation at the treatment which the old man had received, and told him, if he came to the castle every week, he should have fufficient for his fupport, and no longer be under the necessity of labouring to maintain himself. He then rode off with the ladies, leaving the poor old man with tears of gratitude in his eyes. They conversed on the subject of his son, and agreed that his character must be worthless in the extreme, and that he ought to be exposed for his conduct, were it possible for him to be fensible of shame. They called at Glenmore, and Lord Raymond and Lady Laura were charmed with its inhabitants, and gave them a polite invitation to the castle, which they promised to accept.

When

When Lord Raymond and the ladies returned home, they related the old man's flory to Sir James and Albert : the latter faid he would call on his fon, if he could learn where he refided; and it was most probable he should have an opportunity, of succeeding as his abode might be in some part of England, through which they would pass in their travels. They questioned the old man when he came, and were informed, that his fon's name was Leland, and that he lived in the north of Devonshire. When the time arrived for the departure of lanthe's father and brother, she endeavoured to appear cheerful, that the might not diffress the former, tho' fhe was inwardly much affected; but the found relief in the hope that

that Sir James would return quite recovered: yet the could not avoid weeping when they were gone; but it rather relieved than distressed her, as her tears did not proceed from fuch bitterness of woe as the many the had so often shed. Lady Laura, by every delicate and foothing attention, fought to divert her mind from unpleasant reflections, and Lady Rofa was equally kind. Lord Raymond knew her fondness for the beauties of rural scenery, and was continually in fearch of fome beautiful and romantic spot to surprise her with, which was not difficult as the country abounded with sublime and picturesque views. He would point out to her, as she leaned on his arm, some charm in the landscape that she had not noticed

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his conversation made every object appear in a pleasing light. How often did he wish to implore her forgiveness, and was restrained only by the dread of hearing an unfavourable sentence pronounced. Hence he was induced to continue slattering himself, perhaps, with an imaginary illusion, rather than meet with a painful certainty.

He would sometimes watch her to the cottage of a poor woman who was confined to her bed by illness, and had been left a widow without any means of support. Ianthé had relieved her distress and fed her young children, whom she had sound weeping with hunger round the bed of their unfortunate mother.

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happy in the reflection of having fostened their misery, she would leave the cottage, her lovely countenance animated with pleasure, and her mild blue eyes, yet wet with the tears of pity. At those moments Lord Raymond loved her more than ever, and felt that his peace would receive an incurable wound, should he lose a gem of such inestimable value.

The pride of Lord de Mountfort would have been much gratified by an alliance with the family of Verrina, as their rank and fortune were both splendid. He therefore invited the Count to de Mountfort Castle, with the hope of obtaining his approbation to a match he wished to form between Lord Raymond and

and Lady Rosa, as no idea of the former's passion for lanthé had ever ftruck him. It would indeed have highly exasperated him, as he could not digest her father's plebeian origin and the smallness of her fortune. Compassion alone, he supposed, dictated his attention to her, as he judged Lady Rofa much her superior in beauty, and would have thought it impossible for his fon to prefer Ianthé. When the Count's intended vifit was communicated to Lord Raymond, he determined to explain the ambiguity of his behaviour to Miss Claremont, as he trembled at being supplanted in her affections, but no opportunity offered for the remainder of the day. He felt this a great disappointhealthy ed detect a of nonscoment,

form between Lord Raymond

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ment, as the Count was expected the next evening.

The fun had arifen in all its majesty and gilded the tops of the hills, when lanthé was awaked by its rays darting into her apartment. She began to dress herself; and when the had finished, opened her casement. The ivy, that clung round it was gently moved by the foft air of the morning; at a diftance she heard the cheerful bleating of the sheep, and the birds fung harmoniously among the trees. The sweetness of the scene caused a tear of tender recollection to steal down her cheek, as it recalled the remembrance of her mother, who was very partial to the first dawn of morning. A passing footstep roufed

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fed her from this pensive melancholy, and she looked round, unable to conjecture who could be there fo early. But her furprize was beyond description, when she perceived Lord Raymond with his eyes raifed towards her: he bowed, and requested, in a low voice, that she would honor him immediately with a few minutes conversation. As fhe could not guess his motives for fuch a request, she hesitated, confidering it an impropriety, fituated as they were; but he continued to urge her fo earnestly, pleading that his happiness depended on her compliance, that she at length consented to join him. He thanked her for this condescension, and they walked to fome distance from the house that they might avoid being

over-

overheard. Lord Raymond then intreated her forgiveness for the wounds he had given to her feelings by his late conduct, which almost resembled madness. He ascribed it to the poison infused into his mind by Willoughby and her cousins, who had used every art to strengthen his belief of her infidelity. His agony, he faid, was past expression, when he discovered the treachery used against him at the masquerade, which clearly proved her innocence, and shewed him how much he had injured her by his fuspicions. He proceeded to relate his following her to Wales, the circumstance of finging under her window, and his concealment in the haunted apartments, where the had been to much alarmed. VOL. II. Here Here Ianthé smiled at the remembrance of the terror she had suffered. He concluded by affuring her, that all his hopes of happiness rested on a recovery of her regard, and he waited in the greatest anxiety for her final fentence, which was to declare him the happiest or most miserable of men. Ianthé could not answer him immediately; she cast down her beautiful eyes, and a blush, deep as the tint of the rose, suffufed her cheeks. In this interval, Lord Raymond suffered the most cruel suspense. At length, with the candour fo natural to her, she confessed that he had never been entirely alienated from her heart. She esteemed him too highly to conclude him totally guilty, and it gave her pleasure to know he merited rited her forgiveness. Nothing could exceed Lord Raymond's rapture; he kissed the hand she held out to him, in a transport of joy, and would hardly suffer her to quit him. When she was returned to her apartment, it was some time before the tumult of her spirits subsided. To find Lord Raymond worthy of her affections, was a subject on which she could not dwell without the most heartfelt satisfaction; and the pleasure it inspired, dissipated every uneasy sensation.

The usual routine of amusements occupied the day, and in the evening the Count arrived. His countenance wore an air of more than usual haughtiness. After coldly embracing his sister, he made his com-

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pliments

pliments to Miss Claremont with a studied indifference, as if he would have faid, you are no longer of any consequence to me. But under this affumed coldness lurked the most violent passion, as she appeared in his eyes with increased loveliness; he had always feen her a prey to grief; but the calm which had just been diffused into her mind, had restored her lively and innocent gaiety; a sportive smile played on her vermillion lips, and gave a peculiar fweetness to her whole countenance. Lord Raymond treated the Count with the noble frankness that distinguished his character, tho' conscious he was his rival; but this generous conduct had no effect on the Count. who difliked him for the partiality which he eafily perceived Ianthé enterentertained in his favor. A fimilarity of fentiments attached Lord de Mountfort to Verrina, who became a great favorite with him.

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Ah, me! is that the youthful cheek

Where health and beauty late were glowing?

Is that the eye which shone so meek,

The lip from which soft sounds were slowing?

TOMLINS.

HAPPY are those whose hearts are not corroded by the pangs of unrequited love, and who enjoy the happiness of doing good without any diminution either of their will or power. They awake only to joy; at night they taste the sweetest sleep; they delight in the beautiful variety of the seasons, and of the treasures of nature, for their hearts

are always op en to impressions of pleasure. These were Lady Rosa's reflections, as she took her folitary walk in the park. Every object that had formerly given her pleasure, now lost its charms, and increased her woe, as they reminded her of the happiness that was fled from her, never to be recalled. Sighing, she raised her beautiful eyes to Heaven, as if to implore fome relief to her forrow; but she had nourished the fatal cause of it till she could no longer efface from her memory its deep impression. She mourned in fecret her weakness, that had been productive of an error which was now too late to remedy. How guarded, therefore, ought the female mind to be in the bloom of life, against

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the gay poison of love, which, if not fixed upon a worthy object, and where it is certain of a return, will generally destroy every fair and happy prospect. Lady Rosa continued to walk, mufing on the usual object of her thoughts, when her attention was attracted from her own fad reflections to a gentleman at some distance, whose horse appeared to have taken fright, galloping with fo much fury, that it scarcely seemed to touch the ground. Alarmed for the perfon, who appeared to keep his feat with difficulty, the stood on a little eminence near the park palings, which were close to the road, that fhe might watch the event. The gentleman approaches nearer, and at the infant she recognizes him for

for Montalde, he is thrown from his horse, which gallops immediately out of sight.

What pen can depicture the agonized fensations of the unfortunate Lady Rosa? Regardless of every obstacle, she rushes into the road, and fees the body of Montalde pale, covered with blood, and apparently expiring. With her feeble arms she endeavours to remove him. but her efforts are ineffectual. She tears the filk handkerchief from her bosom and binds it round his head. whence the blood had iffued, as he had received a wound by falling against a stone. The tears streamed down her pale cheeks, as she fupported him in her trembling arms, and lamented his fate in

broken accents. Beloved Montalde! she exclaimed, for I may call you so in death, you cannot be saved, you will die, and your eyes will never behold me more. Never know how much I have loved, loved you even to the grave. She now uttered the most piercing shrieks, and wringing her hands in a frantic manner, sunk into a swoon on the body of Montalde, who, exhausted with the loss of blood, had heard Lady Rosa's accents, but could not speak.

Fortunately, a short time after, chance conducted Lord Raymond, with his sister and lanthé, to this spot. They had been alarmed at meeting, about a quarter of a mile from the Park, the horse that Montalde

Montalde generally rode, which made them apprehensive some accident had happened to him. They were, however, quite unprepared for the scene that was now prefented to their view; and the horror of it was fo indelibly impressed upon them, that no time could ever efface the remembrance. Life feemed to be wholly fled from the unfortunate pair: the pale hue of death was visible in Montalde's countenance; Lady Rosa appeared to have shared his fate; her garments and her long beautiful treffes were stained with the purple fream that iffued from his wound. That they had been murdered was the first idea which occurred to Janthé and Lady Laura; but Lord Raymond, who suspected the real 16 cause.

cause, defired them to remain with the bodies, while he hastened to procure immediate affistance. He returned, as foon as possible, with a carriage, in which Montalde and Lady Rosa were placed. When they reached the Castle, by the application of proper remedies, the latter was quickly recovered; but it was a more difficult task to restore the former, as the quantity of blood he had loft had weakened him exceedingly. The wound in his head was not fo alarming as had been at first dreaded; and this accident, which had threatened fo fatal a termination, was likely to produce no dangerous consequences. Montalde's first thought was to inquire after Lady Rosa, and he heard, with the highest satisfaction, The intelligence she had received of his being alive had restored her; but her seelings would have been selicity itself, had she known that the heart of Montalde beat with the tenderest love towards her, as the gratitude and pity he before selt were converted into affection, by her interesting expressions of grief over his body, when she thought him dead.

The Count Verrina's pride was much mortified at the effect Montalde's fituation had upon his fifter, whose love, he thought, must be evident to every person. He entered her apartment with a severe frown on his dark brow, and reproached her, in the harshest terms,

for degrading herself by an attachment to a man fo inferior in fortune. Too ill and languid to exert her usual spirits, she replied to his cruel reproaches with tears only. Lady Laura was present, and, highly difgusted at his being so void of mental fenfibility, told him the confidered it as very unfeeling to accuse Lady Rosa of an attachment to Montalde, merely because the was affected at his fituation, and endeavoured to recover him, as she should have acted exactly the same herself, had she seen him in that melancholy state. The Count would not, however, be fatisfied with any thing she advanced; and his countenance continued clouded with fullen pride. But his fevere reflections had planted a thorn in his fifter's bosom, which rankled and made her miferable, as she dreaded Montalde should think contemptuously of her. The confolatory arguments of her friends fomewhat relieved her: but when the time arrived that he left his apartment, and she was obliged to meet him, she entered with trembling confusion the room where he was. Montalde had too much delicacy to notice her agitation; and, to relieve it, studiously avoided mentioning the late accident; and, by this confiderate behaviour, foon restored her usual ease of manners. The Count maintained a haughty referve, feldom addressing himself to the company, and confining his conversation to Lord de Mountfort. The highhigh-spirited Montalde could not fupport the hauteur of the former, nor the cold indifference of the latter; and though not fufficiently. recovered to bear a removal, he left the Castle, deaf to the earnest intreaties of Raymond and his fifter, who were hurt beyond expression at their father's conduct. They plainly perceived he had been influenced by the Count into an ill opinion of Montalde, which they difliked him for extremely; but they would have been more exafperated had they known that he was employing every method to undermine Lord Raymond's happiness, as well as Lady Rosa's. Elated with Lord de Mountfort's communication of the alliance he wished to form, he endeavoured to enrage I

enrage him against his fon, by expressing his apprehension that the projected union would be prevented by the attachment subfisting between Ianthé and Lord Raymond. Anger flashed in the Earl's countenance at this intelligence, and he affured the Count, that no confideration would make him confent to a marriage, of which he never had the most distant idea; and unused to bear any opposition to his wishes, he added, in a violent rage, that he would employ every obstacle to compel the lovers to refign each other. The Count, to irritate him yet more, mentioned his fufpicion of the influence Montalde had gained over his fifter, and that he had practifed every wile and artifice to win her affections. He was was delighted that Lord de Mountfort entered so warmly into his views, and buoyed himself up with the hope of possessing Ianthé, rendering Lord Raymond miserable, and gratifying his dislike to Montalde. L'or, enfermé dans les entrailles de la terre, cede à peine aux travaux pénibles de ceux qui vont l'en tirer. Ce métal précieux n'est pas moins dissicile à arracher des mains de l'avare; il ne s'en désaisit qu'en mourant. L'espérance de la possession le state plus que la possession même: il accumule des richesses pour un héritier impatient, quelquesois pour un inconnu, ou même pour un ennemi.

SIR James and Albert had written feveral times to Ianthé fince their departure, and every uneafiness about the former's health was calmed by the satisfactory accounts she received of him. They were in Somersetshire when they last wrote.

wrote, and thence proposed to visit the fea-coast of Devonshire, as the air, they had heard, was particularly falubrious for invalids. They travelled to Exeter, and Albert having procured a direction to the refidence of Mr. Leland, which was ten miles from that city, left Sir James, and fet off alone to visit him. As he travelled, he admired the face of the country, and the pleasing variety of hills and dales, which amused the eye, and never fatigued it by an uniformity in the prospects. At the distance of a mile from Drakelow-House, where Mr. Leland refided, he met a countryman, whose cheerful, open countenance induced Albert to accost him and ask some questions relative to the gentleman he was going ing to visit. " Why, Goddy bless " your honor," faid he, in the true Devonshire pronunciation, " as " zure as I be a living zoul, he is " one of the stingiest gentlevolks " that I ever zeed on the veace " of God's arth. He keeps tew " grete craving mastiffs, to vrigh-" ten all the poor volk that go to " beg a morfel of bread; and if his " darter, who's a noice yong leady, " gees a body a crum of any thing, " he puts himsel into sich a mortal " bad passion, as would make ye " mazed if ye zeed un. Many a " poor zoul has bin drowd into " prison, when they coudunt pay " un what they owed un." Albert rewarded the countryman for this intelligence, which gave little hopes for the old man's relief, and afked asked if the road to the house was strait forwards? "Yes zure, your "honor, pray take care of the "mastiss, for they be cruel gruss" to strangers." Albert smiled at the good man's fears, and thanking him for his advice, spurred his horse and soon reached the house.

It was fituated in a deep valley, furrounded with woods, and bore venerable marks of antiquity. The dogs, mentioned by the countryman, growled furlily at him, as he rung a bell, whose heavy tones echoed through the building. After waiting a long time, he heard the massy iron gates unbarred, and an old servant appeared in a livery, that had been made at least twenty years before. He was ushered into a large

a large square court, surrounded by a number of different buildings, apparently offices to the house, and then shewn into a hall, where he was defired to remain, while the fervant informed his mafter of his name. In his absence, Albert amused himself by observing the place he was in. It was as large as the body of a church, with windows in the same style, and an immense chimney, of sufficient dimensions to dress provisions for the county. By fome inscriptions he read on the walls, it appeared to have formerly belonged to the fociety of Knights' Templars. He was mufing on the gloomy taste of the owner of this antediluvian mansion, in having chosen it for his residence, when the fervant returned, and faid his his master was prepared to receive him, though unacquainted with his name.

Albert followed him into the apartment where fat Mr. Leland, whose meagre form and care-worn aspect proved that his heart was torn with the most bitter remorfe and avarice. By his fide was feated a beautiful girl, about fixteen, whose open ingenuous countenance made it doubtful that she was his daughter. She appeared to have been reading to her father, as she threw aside a book she held in her hand, when the stranger entered. Mr. Leland furveyed Albert with a look of curiofity, and feemed to wait in expectation of his relating the bufiness he came upon, when the the latter thus addressed him :-"You are doubtless, fir, ignorant " of the melancholy subject that " has introduced me to you, and it " gives me concern to inflict pain " on any one, which I must ne-" ceffarily do, by informing you " that your father is now living." " Juletta," said Mr. Leland, in a stern voice, not suffering Albert to continue the conversation, "leave " the room instantly." The young girl appeared to obey with reluctance, notwithstanding the anger that had rifen in his countenance. When she had left the room, Albert proceeded, though the other made feveral efforts to interrupt him. "Your father is now living," faid he, " in Wales, in extreme pover-" ty, without any support, but a " fmall VOL. II. K

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" fmall pittance which the charity

" of some benevolent people be-

" flows on him. At his time of

" life he cannot live long; and I

" imagine you will not hefitate to

" fettle a yearly income upon him,

" to render his latter days com-

" fortable, as a trifling fum will

He was proceeding in his endeavours to interest the son's compassion for his father, when Mr. Leland, almost choaking with anger and chagrin, exclaimed, that he had no money to throw away upon such a worthless old fellow, who ought to have been dead long since. He added, that he did not thank any officious person, who might, perhaps, be an impostor, for endeavouring to defraud him of

his

his money, and defired he would quit his house immediately. After expressing his contempt, and reproaching him for his unnatural conduct, Albert rose to depart, leaving the miser fuming with rage and vexation. As he croffed the hall, he heard a foft voice calling him, and, looking round, perceived it was Juletta. She approached, and putting a purse into his hand, faid, with tears in her eyes, "Give " this to my grandfather; I was " ignorant, till to-day, that he was " alive and in diffress. Your words " awakened my curiofity, and Gre-" gory, our old fervant, has fince " given me an account of him that " has made my heart ach. If ever " I should have it in my power," faid she, fighing, "tell him, I will K 2 comfort " comfort his old age. I am con" vinced your heart must be hu" mane to interest yourself in the
" cause of the unfortunate." The
voice of her sather interrupted her,
as she dreaded his seeing her with
Mr. Claremont, whom she quitted
in haste, and he saw her no more.

Albert reflected with pity on the unhappy fituation of the amiable Juletta with fuch a father, whose disposition was so opposite to her own, that it was unaccountable how she had refrained from imbibing the like sentiments. In person she resembled her mother, a very beautiful woman, whom he had married soon after he came from the East Indies. She had sacrificed her own happiness in uniting herself

felf to him in order to fave her family from diftress, as he was a man that must have been disagreeable in the extreme to a woman of refinement, from the grossness of his manners and the depravity of his heart. While she lived, which was but a short time after the birth of Juletta, he suppressed, in some degree, his avaricious inclinations; but when the was configned to the filent grave, and rested from her forrows, he retired to Drakelow with his child, where he almost deprived himself of the necessaries of life, as every revolving year increafed his parfimonious disposition. In winter he went to bed at feven o'clock, to fave the expence of fire and candle; and his fervants, tho' he kept but two, were almost starved. K 3

ved. Gregory, the footman, had lived with him a great many years, and was much attached to his deceafed lady, which made him endure more inconveniences than any other fervant would have done. As Juletta grew up, she softened the obduracy of his temper in some degree, for she was the only being he loved; but even for her he would not incur any expence that was not very trifling. All the education she received, was reading and writing. From the country girl, their fervant, she had learnt plain work and knitting, and to fing fome old ballads which her fine voice rendered interesting, such as, Lord Thomas and fair Elinor, and feveral other fongs, which are popular among the lower class of people in Devonfhire.

shire. Nature had, however, been fo lavish of its bounties to her, that with all these disadvantages of education, she had a natural elegance and enchanting naiveté of manners, which no art could acquire; and the plainest dress could not disguise her lovely form. This her father was confcious of, and concealed her as much as possible from observation, as he was apprehensive that the large fortune she would inherit, added to her perfonal charms, might induce fome adventurer to perfuade her to elope with him. His greatest pleafure was in hearing her read to him, and fometimes finging a favorite old ballad. His library was a very large one, and of the utmost utility to Juletta, who, while she amused herself in reading, of which she was was very fond, enlarged her ideas, and thus improved her mind. She had no chance of being released from the solitude to which she was destined, but by the death of her father; but her filial piety and sweetness of temper prevented such a thought occurring to her; and she was happy from the serenity of her mind, tho' with many causes of misery.

When Albert returned to Exeter, he wrote an account to his fifter, of his reception from Mr. Leland, requesting her to acquaint the venerable old man with the goodness of his grand-daughter, and to pay him four guineas from her. He had examined the contents of the purse, and found it contained two guineas,

and a gold medal, worth about the fame fum; the last article he intended to restore to Juletta if he should have an opportunity, as it was most probably of value to her, tho' her generofity had induced her to part with it. It was indeed all the money she had to bestow, and the medal was particularly valuable to her, from having belonged to her mother; but her grandfather's distress made her not hesitate to relinquish it. Sir James and Albert went to Sidmouth, where they remained fome weeks, as they were much pleased with the place.

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Are these the hopes so long indulged, Of making thee my bride? And shall ambition's ruthless hand The blissful knot divide?

LORD de Mountfort, who saw with increasing indignation his son's continued attentions to Ianthé, refolved to end them abruptly by a stroke, which would mark his final and irrevocable disapprobation. He therefore sent for Lord Raymond into the library, and after prefacing his intentions with much solemnity, commanded him to pay his addresses

to Lady Rosa, or forfeit his favour for ever. His fon strongly reprefented how unjust it was to exact fuch obedience, and acknowledged his affection for Miss Claremont, which he would never relinquish. But all remonstrances were vain. as the Earl was too obstinate to listen to the voice of reason; and in a violent passion he forbade his son to appear in his presence till he was prepared to obey him. To impart this intelligence to Ianthé was mifery to Lord Raymond, as he had not long before procured her confent to folicit their parents' approbation of their love. But it was impossible to spare her feelings, as he intended to quit the castle in a few hours, and must assign some reason for it. As he was unwilling K 6 to

to advance any thing beyond the truth, he wrote a note, requesting Ianthé's immediate presence at the grotto, mentioning that he had an affair of consequence to communicate, and had fixed on that place for the interview, because they would be less subject to interruption. Alice returned with an answer from her lady, faying she would attend him instantly, and he preceded her but a few minutes. The dejection of his countenance informed lanthé, that something had happened to afflict him, and The awaited the event in fearful expectation. The hope, faid he, taking her hand, which I have fondly cherished of calling you mine with the consent of my father, is for the present vanished; he is anxious that I should offer myself to Lady Rosa, which

which I have firmly refused, and by this refufal fo highly irritated him, that he has forbidden me his presence. You are not unacquainted with the violence of his temper, and will coincide in my opinion that it will be most prudent for me to quit the castle, till the violence of his anger be fubfided, and reason have refumed her place. The most bitter disappointment is trifling to my present feelings. At the moment I had planned schemes of happiness, which I thought no circumstances could destroy, I am unjustly commanded to relinquish them. Can it be expected that I should comply? continued he, pacing the grotto with a disordered air. Ianthé endeavoured to calm him, by every argument she could devise, reprefenting fenting the defeat of his hopes as a mere temporary evil; but he wished her father to be ignorant of it, as he might probably object to her ever being received into a family, where she had been once rejected. Lord Raymond requested her to correspond with him, as it was the only confolation his prefent wounded mind could feel. After remaining a short time together, they thought it expedient to part, lest they should expose themselves to a discovery. Ianthé remained some time at the grotto, till she had recovered herfelf, as fhe dreaded that any one should perceive her recent emotion. She fought Lady Laura, to whom she communicated the late event; and both had equal cause to regret the pride that actuated Lord de de Mountfort. The remainder of the day passed gloomily; the Count was the only person that had any animation; for, elated with the success of his projects, his vivacity was unusual, as it was not his characteristick. Lord de Mountfort, mortisted at the opposition he had met to his wishes, was sullen and discontented. Lady Rosa was more than commonly dejected, at observing her friend's uneasiness; and Lady Laura, anxious for her brother's and Ianthé's happiness, shared in the latter's melancholy.

The next morning the three friends visited Glenmore, and had the satisfaction of finding Montalde restored to health. Adolphus slew to kiss Ianthé, who requested Lady Rosa

Rofa to play with him, while Lady Laura and herself went to Madame d'Auvergne, who was in her own apartment. Montalde was now left alone with the object of his affections for the first time since he had felt fentiments of regard for her; he wished therefore to take advantage of it, and avowed his love in the most timid and respectful terms. Lady Rosa received this declaration with a modesty which enhanced her native charms: she confessed her predilection for him, but felt herfelf discomposed, as this declaration was rather unexpected, and was glad to be relieved by the return of her friends. She communicated to them, as they walked to the castle, the conversation that had passed between Montalde and herfelf; felf; and it gave them pleasure, to think, that the cause of her dejection was removed, as they were convinced she had every prospect of felicity from the unquestionable worth of her lover's character.

Lord Raymond had been absent some time, and Ianthé, who expected he would have written to her when he arrived at Bath, had received no intelligence of him; but she endeavoured to avoid the anticipation of evil, as she knew by experience, that the real ills of life were sufficient, without forming imaginary ones. A train of alarming reslections, however, obtruded, and made her exceedingly pensive as she walked thro' the long gallery that led to her apartment. The image

image of her mother appeared to her difordered fancy, fmiling on her with ineffable sweetness, as she used to do when pleased with her; and a tear stole down Ianthe's cheek, as she recollected that happiness would never return. She was looking at some of the pictures that ornamented the gallery, to divert these sad thoughts, when she heard a footstep advancing from the staircase to that part of the gallery where she was. Supposing it was Alice, she did not look round, till the person drew near to her, and then, to her great aftonishment, she beheld the Count. "I am surprised, " my Lord, to see you here," faid Ianthé, addressing him with an air of displeasure. " Pardon me, " Mis Claremont," he replied, cc. if owegni

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" if, urged by the most ardent love, " I have intruded, and trusted to " your gentleness for forgiveness." -" Good night my Lord," faid fhe, attempting to leave him; " I will " not listen to a subject which I " confider an infult, and which " is particularly displeasing from " you." He followed, and endeavoured to detain her; but finding it ineffectual, he faid, "If my hap-" piness will not prevail on you to " listen to me, the consideration " that your own peace of mind " depends upon your compliance " with my request, will, I hope, " induce you." This ferious affeveration made her return; and desiring him not to trifle with her, as she could not comprehend what he could have to relate that was in any degree

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degree interesting to her, she waited with impatience the event. The Count then affured her, after the most violent professions of love, that it had been Lady Claremont's wish that she should marry him. He had struggled a long time, he continued, with the delicacy of his feelings, till it had preyed on his spirits and made him miserable, as he wanted resolution to mention it. But apprehensive, at length, that she should bestow her affections on any other object, he resolved to impart this fecret to her, as he knew her piety. and affection would make her comply with whatever had been her mother's inclinations. He delivered this story in so plausible a manner, and expressed so much forrow at being obliged to recall the memory e

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as breaking an engagement she had The Count's disappointed air strengthened her opinion of his falsehood, and she refused to hear him fay any thing more, though he began to speak with great earnest. ness. She had by this time reached herapartment, leaving him mortified and disappointed. He was chagrined beyond description, as he had a contemptible opinion of the fex, and thought it the easiest thing in the world to impose upon their credulity. But it is always in the power of the wicked to wound the innocent; and though his arts could not prevail on Ianthé to refign Lord Raymond, the uncertainty that remained of the truth or falsehood of what he alledged, created her a great deal of uneafinefs. The night was formy; the wind howled round

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the battlements of the Castle; the rain and hail battered against the casements, and the melancholy noise of the shreek owl increased the oppression of her spirits, which she tried to diffipate by offering up her most fervent prayers to the Almighty disposer of the world. Sleep foon visited her weary eyelids, as she became more composed; but the perturbation of her mind influenced her dreams, which were terrific, and she woke several times in horror. Her spirits felt agitated in the morning, and harraffed by the frightful images of the preceding night; but she calmed this disquietude, by reflecting, that her ills were but visionary, as little credit could be given to what the Count had afferted, and a few weeks might bring her intelligence

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when Albert wrote from Exeter, was improving in his health, and proposed to continue in Devonshire some months, as the air agreed extremely well with him. The old man received the relation of his grand-daughter's goodness with tears of joy, and it made him quite happy; for the continuance of his son's unfeeling conduct had not surprised him, and he did not feel so much affected, as if he had expected a different behaviour.

From the time that Montalde was assured of Lady Rosa's approbation of his passion, he was careless of the Count's opinion; and by frequently visiting at the Castle, supplied, in some degree, the loss of

of Lord Raymond. He became every day more attached to Lady Rosa, whose charms improved upon acquaintance, as the hauteur of her manners was softened by the society of her gentle friends, Ianthé and Laura.

The Count was studious to catch every opportunity of speaking to lanthe, but she cautiously avoided him. Another week passed without any news of Lord Raymond, and she began to be seriously uneasy. The innocent prattle of little Adolphus was her chief amusement, having prevailed on Madame d'Auvergne to let him remain with her a sew days. Her only method to escape the Count, was by rising early, as the mornings Vol. II.

were fine, and the refreshing coolness of the air, before the sun darted its most fervid beams, invigorated her spirits. She continued this plan three mornings, and on the fourth, as she left her apartment rather later than usual, she was divided, whether she should walk or not. The fear of meeting the Count was, however, fuperfeded by her inclination to enjoy the smiling face of nature. She walked by the fide of the canal, and held in one hand a basket filled with aquatick plants, which she had gathered to botanise with, leading by the other Adolphus, who diverted himself with seeing the fwans wash their filver wings in the glaffy stream; A gentle breeze agitated her fair hair, and she looked

ed beautiful beyond expression. As she drew near the bridge that crosfed the canal, she observed a gentleman, at some distance, with his hat drawn fo low over his face that the could not diftinguish his features, and a loofe great-coat concealed his figure; but when he approached, fhe perceived, under this difguife, that it was Lord Raymond, and uttered an exclamation of joy. When they recovered from their emotions at feeing each other, he faid, " It must be difficult for you, " my beloved Ianthé, to account " for my fudden appearance, but " to explain it, and apologize for " my filence, which I fear has dif-" pleased you, I must relate the " events that have occasioned this " apparent negligence on my part. " When L 2

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"When I arrived at Bath, the

" diffurbance of my thoughts pro-

" duced a fever, which made me

" delirious for several days. At the

" height of my disorder I frequent-

" ly mentioned your name, and I

" was informed of it by Thomas,

" my fervant, on my recovery.

" Having attended me from a boy,

" his attachment to my person is

" very great; I was therefore not

" much furprised, when, after

" begging a hundred pardons for

" the liberty he was going to take,

" he requested to know if I were

" in love with Miss Claremont?

" The oddity of this address made

" me smile, and I answered in the

" affirmative. I thought your

"Lordship was, he replied, by

" what you faid when you were

" light-

" light-headed; and I think my-" felf bound in duty to acquaint " your Lordship with the particu-" lars that Count Verrina's man, " Lorenzo, told me. We are very " intimate, and he faid, one day, over a bottle of ale, that his " mafter was going to be married " to Miss Claremont, in spite of " Lord Raymond. Ah! fays I, " my lad, how do you know that? " Oh answered he, we have laid " our scheme finely! I am ordered " to bring every letter that is left " at the post-office for Miss Clare-" mont to the Count; and we " shall cheat them, I warrant you. " But I know you are an honest " fellow, Tom, and will be as close " as wax. Yes, certainly, fays I, " you may depend upon me; but L3

" I determined all the while to tell your Lordship.

"You will think, Ianthé, how " much this villainous account " furprised me; but I felt inward-" ly rejoiced, that my illness had " delayed my writing to you, and " resolving to trust no one with " any message to you, I was " obliged to curb my impatience " till I was fufficiently recovered " to vifit you myfelf. I arrived " here the day before yesterday, " and have been ever fince watch-" ing for an opportunity of speak-" ing to you, but none has offered " till this morning. I have been " at Glenmore, and requested Mon-" talde to fuffer my letters to be " directed under cover to his fifter. " Adieu. " Adieu, for the present, my love, " as I cannot rifk a discovery by " remaining any longer. I will " not give way to despondence, " but hope our constancy will not " meet with any more trials." He now folded her to his faithful bofom, and was then quickly out of fight, leaving Ianthé, as if awaked from a dream. A burst of tears restored her to recollection, as she was oppressed with forrow, when the reflected that the had been the cause of Raymond's sufferings. Adolphus had been playing on the grass, and began to cry when he faw her weeping; to quiet him she dried her tears, and the child ran laughing and jumping before her to the Castle.

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The failure of receiving Lord Raymond's letters was quite a myftery to the Count. His politic brain had teemed with numerous projects; but none, he thought, fo feafible, or approved of fo well, as that which he had already practifed, and which, to his extreme mortification, he imagined had failed; but his pride yet stimulated him to purfue a plan he had flattered himself would be fuccefsful, as he fometimes attributed Ianthé's visible dejection to not hearing from her lover. The latter frequently received letters from Lord Raymond, which were very interesting to her, as they breathed the utmost tenderness. He sometimes hinted, though distantly, at a private marriage; but she avoided understanding him, as she had the greatest objection to it. Lord de Mountfort appeared quite indisserent about his son, and she saw no prospect of his relenting, but by the marriage of Montalde and Lady Rosa, which would destroy every hope he had indulged of the wished-for alliance, that had rendered him so obstinate to his son's intreaties.

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Another, more happy, the maid

By fortune is destin'd to bless—

Tho' the hope has forfook that betray'd,

Yet why shou'd I love her the less?

MONTALDE was very urgent with Lady Rofa to confent to be his, as he pleaded that the Count would have no power over her, when the indiffoluble bond was fealed; but if he went to Italy previously to it, he might, by united force and intreaties, compel her to accompany him; which would annihilate every hope of their union, as she would be then intirely

intirely fubservient to his authority. Lady Rosa could not long resist his intreaties, as she was conscious there was much truth in what he alledged. Ianthé and Lady Laura joined in his request, and their approbation of it at length quite conquered her scruples, and she confented to bestow her hand on Montalde the Friday following. It was fettled that the ceremony should be performed at Glenmore, by a Catholic priest, whom the latter was to procure. No material circumstance occurred to disturb the tranquillity of any individual of the party; and the morn that was to unite Montalde and Lady Rofa was hailed with favourable omens of their future happiness. Though married to the object of her affec-L 6 tions,

tions, she was fensibly affected at the unavoidable estrangement of her brother, which keenly wounded her feelings, he being the only relative the had ever known. But the foothing tenderness of Montalde alleviated every painful fensation. His impatience was great to claim her as his wife, and the intervening time, that passed till the intended explanation, moved flowly in his conceptions. To avoid incenfing the Earl, it was to be concealed from him, that Lady Laura and Ianthé were present at the marriage. Immediately after breakfast, the Monday following, Lady Rosa left the Castle and walked to the park gates, where Montalde was waiting to convey her to Glenmore. At dinner the Count and Lord t

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Lord de Mountfort expressed their furprise at her being absent, and asked Laura and Ianthé if they knew the cause of it. They anfwered in the negative, and wore the appearance of astonishment at the circumstance. The Count then faid with a fneer, he supposed she was at the cottage, as its rural charms appeared particularly fascinating to her. He had just finished this good-natured speech, when the groom of the chambers prefented him with a note, which he opened with furprise; but glancing his eye on the fignature of Rosa de Montalde, he tore it instantly to pieces, without deigning to read it. Then, with a voice almost suffocated with rage, he exclaimed, addressing himself to the Earl :-" The

" The fuspicions I had formed, my "Lord, were but too just, and the " arts of that curfed Frenchman " have at last succeeded. My fif-" ter is married to him." Lord de Mountfort, aftonished and disappointed, was almost petrified, and it might have been supposed, from his inanimate appearance, that this intelligence had the power of converting him, like Niobe, into stone. He was roused from this state of Rupefaction by the Count's vehement menaces against Montalde. lanthé and Lady Laura endeavoured to appease his fury; but he was ungovernable, and left the faloon, followed by the Earl, whose own anger was lost in the fight of Verrina's raging passion and incessant threats of vengeance.

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The fair friends viewed each other in the utmost consternation, as they had not imagined he would have been fo highly irritated, and dreaded Lady Rosa's sufferings, should she hear of the anger he had expressed. " I wish you would speak " to him," faid Lady Laura, " as " the love he entertains for you " may induce him, perhaps, to " listen to your reasonings. I con-" fess, Ianthé, that the task is un-" pleasant, but as the life of a wor-" thy character is at stake, you " cannot refuse to undertake it, fince " your influence on his mind will " be of infinite service to the cause. " But we will first inquire of Lo-" renzo, where to find his master." They learnt from the fervant that the Count was in the library, and Lady Laura, after attending her friend to the door, left her, though with little expectation of foftening his haughty spirit. He was hastily pacing the room, which prevented his observing her immediately; but the frown on his gloomy brow feemed to relax of its feverity, when he perceived her approaching. "To " what fortunate circumstance am " I indebted, Miss Claremont, for " the honor of this vifit?" faid he. taking her hand, which she dared not withdraw. " I have prefumed, " my Lord," fhe replied, " to of-" fer myself as a petitioner in be-46 half of your fifter, who will be " wretched indeed, should Mon-" talde and yourself meet; as to lose " either her husband or brother, must stamp her future life with the

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" the most poignant misery. Love " alone is Montalde's fault; and " can you, who have fo often " pleaded its force, thus punish the " consequences of it with so much " rigour? confult your own breaft, " and you will fully acquit him. " His heart and birth are noble, " and though fortune has been " particularly unkind to him, he " bas merited all her favours. She " now feems to reward him for her " former frowns, by uniting him " to the woman he loves. Add " not, therefore, to the feverity of " his fate, by obliging him to ren-" der her miserable. No other fear " would induce him to meet you " with reluctance, as his gallant " conduct is well known; but cir-" cumstanced as he is, I am affured

" he would rather regard you as a re-" vered friend, than as an enemy." The Count almost forgot his anger in listening to the sweet accents of this fair pleader, and though he felt the justice of what she had alledged, he would not appear wholly to relent, hoping to gain an advantage from her terror. "I am careless, " Madam," faid he, addressing her, " of my own life, as I have lately " not met with any thing to re-" concile me to it; yet I own it " would be inhuman, in the high-" est degree, to pursue with rigour " my former fentiments of re-" venge, being dictated by the first emotions of anger. I did not " consider how fatal such ven-" geance would be to a fifter, " whom I still tenderly love. But " again, ori in

" manner

" again, my injured honor de-" mands a facrifice, and my prin-" ciples lead me to think every " consideration of affection secon-" dary to it. Not even your per-" fuafions can, therefore, make me " relinquish my intention of mee-" ting Montalde, and one induce-" ment alone will have weight " with me. Regard then my love " with an eye of pity, that I may " flatter myself with one day cal-" ling you mine, and I will be " wholly under your guidance; " otherwise I am inflexible."-" This is cruel," my Lord, rejoined Ianthé; " you forget I am al-" ready engaged, and would make " me guilty of the highest injus-" tice in breaking a promise that " is facred. By acting in this " manner, I should judge myself " culpable, even if attached to " you; but the fincere affection I " have for Lord Raymond, ren-" ders me firm in rejecting you, " as it would be the basest dupli-" city in me to indulge hopes that " can never be realised. Suffer the " natural nobleness of your foul to · conquer an unfortunate paffion, " which duty bids me to oppose, and " accept my friendship and esteem of which are all I have to bestow. " By restoring your fister to your " affection, and acknowledging her " husband as your brother, the ap-" probation of your own heart will, believe me, amply recom-66

" pense you for the sacrifices you

" may make."

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The Count heard with emotion the pleadings of virtue and innocence, and could no longer refift arguments fo powerful. "You have " conquered, Ianthé," faid he; " you have quitefubdued me; never " again will I prefer my happiness " to your peace, but confider my-" felf criminal for having diftur-" bed it. Forgive me, if I fay " I love you a thousand times more " than myself; but it shall not ex-" cite another wish, inconsistent " with your regard for Lord Ray-" mond. I will in future be a " friend to you both, by making " use of the interest I have with " the Earl, in reconciling him to " his fon, and by promoting your " union, for which I shall be a " strenuous advocate, and hope, as " a reward.

" a reward, to lose, in the contemp-" lation of your happiness, my own fufferings." He uttered thefe last words with a figh, and lanthé, furprised and affected by his generous behaviour, expressed her admiration and gratitude in fuch warm terms, as inspired the Count with the most benevolent determinations: and he continued: " I will accom-" pany Lady Laura and yourfelf " to Glenmore this evening, as it " is my wish to affure its inhabi-" tants, as foon as possible, of my " friendship for them, and I will " immediately order the carriage " to be ready for you in half an " hour." Ianthé went instantly to Lady Laura, and imparted the fuccess of her embassy. After many expressions of joy, the latter said, looking looking archly at her, " I told you " that he could not refift your elo" quence, and would become quite " harmless and gentle."

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Lady Rofa was walking on the lawn with Montalde, when the carriage drove up to the gate. Not expecting to see her brother, she was fo much affected, that she could with difficulty support her trembling frame, as she dreaded the reproaches she had to encounter. But her senses, she thought, deceived her, on perceiving him approach with a smiling air, and hearing him congratulate her on her marriage. He then faluted her, and embraced her husband with an air of fincerity equally agreeable and furprifing. Manners fo unexpectedly pectedly kind excited the greatest aftonishment in them, and they imagined themselves under some illusion, till the Count, looking at Ianthé, faid, "to this angel are " you indebted for feeing me re-" ftored to my fenses, which were " loft, while under the dominion " of prejudice and paffion; but her " gentle admonitions have recove-" red, and taught me how I ought " to act." Ianthé blushed at this pointed address, and endeavoured to turn the conversation into another channel, which they gave into, in compliance with her wishes.

The Count, who had communicated happiness to the whole party, was the only individual of it that had any uneasiness to disturb them;

for tho' he strove to conceal, by his looks, words, and actions, the love he felt for Ianthé, from the fear of giving her pain, his regret was extreme, to think fuch an inestimable treasure was lost to him for ever. Severe, indeed, was the trial; and he was convinced how necessary it was for him to quit England, if he wished to recover his peace of mind. He intended to request Montalde and his fifter to accompany him to Italy, which he hoped to prevail upon them to do without reluctance: but he had the generosity to wish that Ianthé's union with Lord Raymond might take place before his departure, as he was anxious for her felicity, tho' a contrary fate would be his, till absence had weakened his attachment. He feared it would be VOL II. a diffi-M

a difficult point to reconcile Lord de Mountfort to this change of fentiment, as age had increased his obstinacy, and made it almost impossible to render him open to conviction. Lord Raymond, to whom lanthé had imparted the Count's noble and generous conduct, expressed the highest admiration of him, and readily excused his former errors, attributing them to the violence of his love, which he considered very pardonable.

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Her heart, where pity lov'd to dwell,
With anguish oft was wrung.
For the bruis'd insect, as it fell,
Her soft tear trembling hung.
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WHILE these events were taking place in Wales, Albert received orders to join his regiment, which was to embark for Ireland in a few days. He felt a reluctance at quitting Devonshire, the cause of which he endeavoured in vain to conceal from himself; but his heart too plainly told him, that the beauty

and unaffected manners of Juletta Leland had made an indelible impression on his mind, and he had an interior fatisfaction in knowing he was at a short distance from her, which would no longer exist, when he left the kingdom. Her peculiarly pitiable fituation, in having fo worthless a father, had excited a commiseration for her, which, added to her charms, foon ripened into love. The elegance of Albert's manners had at the same time appeared very striking to Juletta, as they formed a decided contrast to the country clowns in the neighbourhood, who were the only men she had ever feen; and she could not avoid fometimes giving a figh to his memory. But the gayety of virtue and innocence is rarely difturbed:

turbed; and she had seen too little of him, to have impressed any painful sensations on her mind; which was extremely fortunate, as the solitude in which she lived would have contributed to nourish sentiments, that must have proved a source of misery.

The indisposition of her father, however, interrupted her tranquillity, and she became alarmed for his life. In vain did she solicit him to have some medical advice, as he continued daily to grow worse. The dread of expence made him obstinate to all she could urge. His constitution, debilitated by the stings of a guilty conscience, and the rigid abstemiousness he observed from parsimony, threatened very soon to M 2 be

be fubdued by the burning fever that confumed him. His daughter earnestly intreated he would suffer her to watch by him all night, but he positively refused, as he dreaded that any thing extraordinary should be expended. One day, when he had been more indisposed than usual, Juletta judged it right to disobey him, and defired Gregory to fit up in the kitchen all night, and occasionally listen at her father's door to know how he continued. Mr. Leland, whose vigilance was extreme, as illness prevented his fleeping, heard fomebody coming up the stairs, for the least noise echced thro' the old building. Irritated to think his commands had not been attended to, he got up to fee who the person was that had difodisobeyed him; but weakened by being confined fo long to his apartment, he had strength only to reach the top of the staircase, when his foot flipping in the dark, he fell to the bottom, and was killed on the spot. Thus died Mr. Leland a victim to avarice, after passing a life of mifery of his own creating, when he might have enjoyed happiness, and conferred it on others. Seldom was the fmoke feen to rife from his chimney; but it was just that he should suffer hunger, tho' he possessed the means of plenty, as he had deprived numerous individuals of their subsistence. Gregory, who had been afleep, was routed by the noise of his master's fall: he ran out into the hall, and felt the greatest horror at seeing him extended M 4 apparapparently lifeless, and in the most wretched state upon the stone pavement. He went immediately to Grace, the maid fervant, and when he had informed her of the accident, defired she would not acquaint the young lady with it, as he was going to procure a doctor, and would fend fome people to convey their mafter to bed. The poor girl, who had a great deal of superstition, which is the usual companion of ignorance, was terrified at the idea of remaining in the house almost by herself with a dead man, and intreated him to make hafte, and fend fome person to be with her. Every possible method was used, when the doctor arrived, for Mr Leland's recovery, but without effect. Gregory related to him what he fupposed

posed had occasioned his death, and this gentleman was aftonished to hear, that he had carried his avarice to fuch lengths. He asked, if the young lady had any friends to direct her in fettling her affairs, as her extreme youth must render it a task of trouble and difficulty. Gregory, who was very communicative, replied, "Oh! no, fir, I never " heard of any relation my master " had, except his father, who lives " fomewhere in Wales. It is a pity, " indeed, as you fay, fir, that she " has no older person to direct her, " as fhe will have a large fortune, " and a bleffed day it will be for " the poor people; for she is very " generous, when she has it in her " power. God knows that was " very feldom, for master kept her " fcanty M 5

" fcanty enough of money, Lord " love her! she is a sweet young " lady, and speaks so affably and prettily to every body." Dr. Evelyn was an excellent character, and his humanity felt much interested for Miss Leland, as her situation was particularly melancholy, in being destitute of friends on such a mournful occasion. The favourable account he had received of her from Gregory, confirmed his resolution to impart the painful news himself; as to suffer either of the fervants to shock her by an abrupt disclosure, would be unfeeling in the highest degree.

Juletta had not heard any thing of what had happened in the night, as her apartment was remote from her

her father's. She was dreffed, as usual, by fix o'clock, and going to inquire how he had flept, when she met Grace, who faid a gentleman wished to speak with her immediately on an affair of confequence. She followed the fervant to the parlour, where the found Dr. Evelyn. He was aftonished at the fight of fo much elegance and beauty, and pitied the feverity of her fate, in having had fuch a father, and being thus left exposed to a world replete with danger for young women, particularly when fuperior in personal charms to most of their fex. He disclosed the melancholy event to Juletta with the utmost caution; but the shock overpowered her, and she instantly fainted away. When she recovered, he adminiftered M 6

stered every consolation he could fuggest to compose her afflicted mind, and she felt grateful for this kind attention from a stranger, as fhe was deeply fensible of her unprotected fituation. But she was much relieved when he affured her that Mrs. Evelyn would be happy to pass some time with her, till her affairs were fettled, and she had procured a lady for her companion, which he advised her to do. Juletta found it difficult to express her gratitude for his goodness, of which the had the highest sense. She was much pleased with the acquisition of Mrs. Evelyn's ·fociety, as her manners were engaging, and she refembled the doctor in compassion and benevolence for the unfortunate. After the funeral, they examined the

the effects that were left, and difcovered in an iron chest, in the late Mr. Leland's apartments, his will, and three thousand pounds in bank notes and specie. Juletta was declared fole heirefs to his immenfe property; but she experienced no other pleafure in possessing this large fortune, than the happiness it would enable her to create in the bosom of diffress. Her first act of generosity was to present Dr. Evelyn with a grateful testimony of her regard for the friendship he had evinced for her, and which had rescued her from many dangers to which her youth and inexperience would have exposed her. Conscious of the defects in her education, the procured an elderly lady of family, who was elegant and accomplished,

to refide with her, as a companion, and to superintend the masters who attended her. She made a rapid improvement in everything she learned, as natute had endowed her with fhining abilities. While Juletta was thus furrounded with novelties, and enjoyed the most refined happiness, she had not forgotten her grandfather, to whose assistance fhe would immediately have hastened, could she have discovered where he refided; but all her refearches were in vain, as she only knew that he lived in Wales, and could meet with no other information. The large fortune she was reported to poffess, soon procured her numerous invitations from the neighbouring families, who eagerly fought her acquaintance, as several ladies,

ladies, who wished their sons to marry advantageoufly, were anxious to have her for a daughter-inlaw, tho' they criticifed the innocent fimplicity of her manners. But the declined their advances to intimacy, preferring her studies to the etiquette of visits, and the society of Mrs. Granville and the Evelyns to every other. Had she been deformity itself, the charms of her purfe would have gained her numerous admirers, among those who regard the glittering gold with more adoration than all the lilies and roses that ever adorned the fairest face. But when to this first perfection every other was united, innumerable were the swains that fighed for her, and blamed the inexorable beauty who concealed herfelf felf amidst the shades of Drakelow. without any compassion for their feelings. Her heart however continued obdurate, as she had not feen any one, whose elegance of person and manners could equal Albert's; she was, therefore, inaccessible to the adulation fo studiously paid her, and for which she had no relish, as flattery can be pleasing only to a corrupt mind, and not to a heart unadulterated like Juletta's. The felicity of her life was embittered by no other regret, than her being unable to discover her grand-father's residence: she employed her time in improving her mind and in performing acts of beneficence, that rendered her an object of general affection and esteem.

——When youth, when pleasure; slies, And earth's dim beauties fade before their eyes; Thro' death's dark vista slow'ry tracks are seen, Elysian plains, and groves for ever green: If o'er their lives a resluent glance they cast, Their's is the present who can praise the past; Life has its bliss for these when past its bloom, As wither'd roses yield a late persume.

SHEMSTONE,

LORD de Mountfort would have continued inflexible to a reconciliation with his son, notwithstanding the Count's generous interference, if the death of Mr. Claremont, who had repented of his cruelty to Sir James, and bequeathed him all his property,

property, had not influenced him to relent. He now became as anxious for Lord Raymond's union with Ianthé, as he was before averse to it; for it was no longer doubtful that she would possess a large fortune. The cause of this change in his conduct was too obvious for disguise; but he endeavoured to conceal the motive, by affirming to his fon, that he perceived fo many traits of goodness in Miss Claremont's character, as intirely to conquer his scruples. But his real views were too difcernible under this flimfy mask, and fo poor a subterfuge afforded Ianthé a great deal of diversion.

When Mr. Claremont found death approaching, he sent an express

press into Devonshire for Sir James, who arrived only in time to receive his forgiveness, as the former expired foon after. The latter had too much goodness of heart to behold, without painful emotions, the death of his father, who had endeavoured by his last bequest to atone for his former want of tendernefs, which had been chiefly occasioned by the treachery of George. Nothing could exceed the rage of the latter on finding that the power he had over his father's mind had failed in depriving his brother of his property. When Sir James had taken possession of his fortune, he returned to Wales, and confented, without any hesitation, to the proposed alliance between Lord Raymond and his daughter. It was fettled that their marriage should take take place on the fame day with Lady Laura's and Lord Lindors'. The latter had made proposals to the Earl, when the twelvemonth had elapsed fince the death of Mr. Rivers. He was received very graciously by the Lord de Mountfort, as no objection could be made to his rank or fortune, and invited to pass some weeks at the Castle, where the felicity of its inhabitants could hardly be augmented, but by the presence of Albert. The Count was indeed an exception, and felt truly miserable as the time approached that was to unite Ianthé to the object of her affections. He perceived the necessity of his immediate return to Italy, and expressed his wish to Montalde, that he would accompany him with his wife wife and fifter. Montalde gratified Verrina by confenting with much fatisfaction; and, without a great deal of difficulty, prevailed on the Marchioness and Gabriella to form the fame resolution. But they reflected on their intended departure with the bitterest anguish, as they would be separated from Inathé and Lady Laura, who endeavoured in vain to persuade them to defer quitting England, and could only obtain a promise that they would return in a few years. The last interview between these friends was affecting beyond description. They embraced each other in mournful filence, and Ianthe's tears bedewed the cheeks of little Adolphus, whom the held fome time in her arms. unable to part from him. The Count

Count was too much agitated to fpeak, when she thanked him, with emotion, for his friendship and generous conduct towards her, which had made an impression that no length of time could erafe. He bowed upon her hand, incapable of articulating any thing, and found this scene so painful, that he could not support it any longer. He looked expressively at Montalde, who, immediately comprehending him, conducted Gabriella to the carriage, and the Count followed with the Marchioness and Adolphus. Several days elapsed before Ianthé recovered from the depreffion of spirits occasioned by this feparation, but she received the greatest relief in the affectionate tenderness of Lord Raymond and his

his fister. Her prospects were all smiling; and she thought it wrong to render those who loved her uneasy, by indulging useless regrets, as the least cloud of sorrow upon her countenance filled them with anxiety. The arrival of her brother heightened her felicity, and he congratulated her with sincere expressions of joy, on the continued happiness she had in view.

The following day, Ianthé and Lord Raymond accompanied Albert to the cottage of their old protégée. To their great surprize, they be held a post-chaise at the door, and on entering the house, perceived a young and beautiful lady seated by the venerable man, who was fast asseep. His grey locks shaded his aged

aged countenance, which wore an air of benignity, as if he retraced in his dreams the virtuous actions of his life. An elderly lady, whose appearance was respectable and elegant, feemed to contemplate with pleasure the scene before her. Their fudden entrance caused the young lady to raise her eyes, and she instantly recognised Albert, for it was indeed the lovely Juletta. I shall be spared, said she, addressing him, the embarrassment of introducing myself to my grandfather, as I will request you to do me that favor; I am but this moment arrived, and would not disturb his repose. Albert replied in the most obliging terms, and then presented her to his fifter and Lord Raymond. The former received Juletta with with a fmile of fweetness, that quite enchanted her, and charmed Mrs. Granville, who was likewise introduced.

It is difficult to depict the old man's joy, when he awoke and learned that this lady was his granddaughter. He felt repaid for all the years of fuffering he had passed, by the tenderness of her manners, and the feeling with which she affured him, it should be her study to make him happy. The company, affected at the touching fenfibility she evinced for this aged victim of unmerited misfortune, melted into tears. When they were recovered from the emotion caused by this tribute to Juletta's worth, Lord Raymond requested her, in his father's VOL. II. name

name, to visit the castle with her grandfather. She confented with fome reluctance, as she had wished to return immediately to Drakelow; but the persuasions of Ianthé conquered her resolution. From the account she had received of her grandfather's poverty, she concluded his clothes were mean, and had brought with her a dress proper for an elderly gentleman of fortune, as the wished her servants to see him in a fituation calculated to fecure him respect. He looked exceedingly well, when dreffed in a fuitable manner, as he was a handsome man, and had received a good education in his youth.

Virtue so exemplary as Juletta's, would have softened to tenderness a heart Theart of adamant; its impression was therefore deep on Albert's, which had already been fusceptible of her charms. He fuffered all the anxiety which a fincere passion is alone capable of feeling; convinced, that with fo much beauty and virtue, she could not be long unengaged, he was apprehensive of losing her. With this idea prevalent in his mind, he requested the honor of conversing with her alone, and offered, as an apology for his prema ture declaration, the fear which influenced him, that some more fortunate man might rival him in her affections. Juletta answered him with the candour that was a leading feature in her character, and confessed she was sensible of his worth. Mis gratitude was unbounded for N. 2 this easy to paint the happiness he experienced, which was damped only by regret at parting with her in so short a time. But Juletta obtained a promise from Lord Raymond, before she left the castle, that he would bring lanthé soon after their marriage, to pass some months with her in Devonshire. Albert was included in the invitation, which he intended to accept, if his duty would permit him.

The fecond morning after Juletta's departure the union of Ianthé and Lord Raymond, and of Lady Laura and Lord Lindors, took place. Albert returned to Ireland, and could not obtain permission to quit it, when Lord Raymond and his lady visited

visited Drakelow House, which was a severe disappointment to him. Juletta had by numerous alterations, rendered this once-gloomy abode cheerful and elegant; and before the expiration of a twelvemonth, it received a new master, as she was then united to Albert; an event from which they both derived an addition of happiness that is the lot of very sew.

Miss Osborne was married to Willoughby. They became a source of continual misery to each other, and passed their time in quarrelling and magnifying the faults of their acquaintance in order to lessen their own. They became at length so thoroughly contemptible, that the

world despised them, as much as they did themselves.

The Miss Sydenhams, after coquetting with every man that came in their way, found at last a deficiency in the attention of the beaux, till consulting their mirrors, they were made too well acquainted with the cause. They viewed the approaches of age with horror, as they could not dwell with pleasure on the past, and remembrance afforded not any acts of virtue performed in their youth.

The unhappy St. Clair travelled from one country to another, endeavouring, but in vain, to banish the reflections that pursued him, to the entire loss of his peace of mind.

They

They proved at length fatal to his constitution, and occasioned a confumption, that terminated his life, before he had reached his twenty fifth year.

Lady Raymond frequently received letters from the Marchionefs. and Gabriella: they did not come to England as they had intended, but were visited by the de Mountfort family, who passed some months in Italy. The violence of the Count's passion was subdued by time; but he always cherished a melancholy, which no efforts could conquer. The Marquis and Marchioness de Montalde enjoyed the purest happiness; but Gabriella continued to mourn the hapless fate of the murdered d'Auvergne; nor would she liften

listen to any other love, the her charms procured her several admirers who would have raised her to splendor. She found her only confolation in viewing the growing excellencies of Adolphus, whose refemblance to his father brought a fad, yet pleasing, recollection to her memory.

Lord Raymond's felicity in being united to the flower of Caernarvon, could admit of no addition. This estimable pair passed their lives in the exercise of every social virtue, and in constant duties of affection to their relations and friends, of whom their noble behaviour commanded the most unbounded attachment and respect. Though clouds of sorrow had overcast the first dawn of their youth,

youth, yet the remainder of their days paffed in happiness rarely equalled. Their hearts were never steeled against the unfortunate, but were, on the contrary, eagerly disposed to relieve their diffress; as they had themselves suffered from the cruelty of an unfeeling and felfish world, prosperity did not make them forget the lessons adversity had taught. Sir James, in the contemplation of his children's felicity, was grateful to the Almighty being, who is the fource of every good. A figh would fometimes escape his bosom at the remembrance of his beloved wife; but he hoped, that from the realms of blifs, she beheld with delight her virtuous offspring.

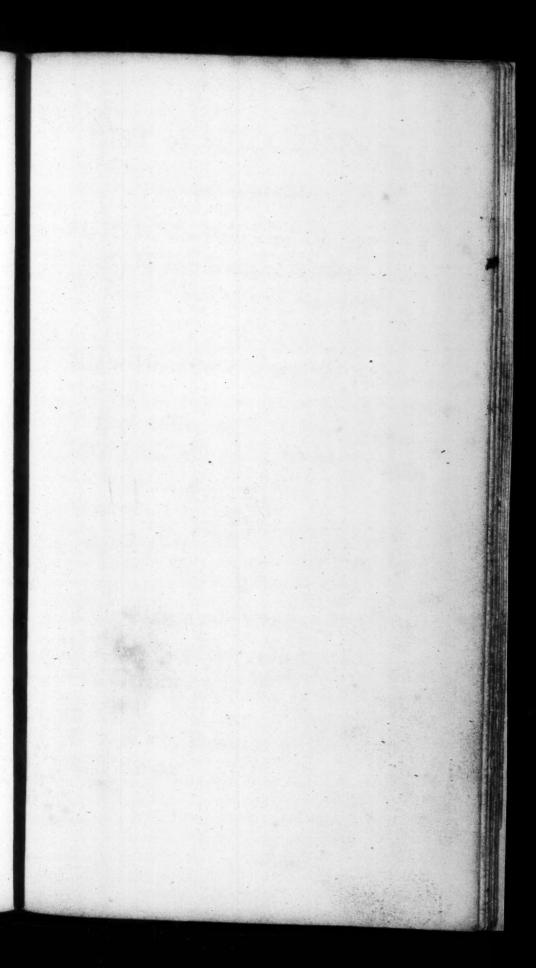


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